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CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE
AUGUST 22, 1994 VOL 157 NO 34

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COVER PHOTO BY CANADIAN PRESS IMAGES

Victoria welcomes the Games

30 Indian ceremonies and a royal prince from across the sea will bring splendour and excitement to this week's opening in Victoria of the 21st Commonwealth Games. The empire that nourished the Games has vanished, but the event of thirteen on new challenges and old glories—like 1894's sub-four-minute miles by Britain's Roger Bannister and Australia's John Landy.



Voting by rote

14 With most Mexican voters apparently unwilling to risk a political change of direction, Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, presidential candidate of the party that has governed for 69 years, is poised to win the Aug. 22 election

Fall of a giant

24 Federal regulators took control of Confederation Life Insurance Co. after a last-ditch effort to organize a \$600-million industry bailout failed. It is the third collapse of a life assurance company in the past three years, and it has raised questions about the stability of an industry once considered to be rock solid



PHOTO BY CANADIAN PRESS

LETTERS

Honorable name

In response to Barbara Aniel's July 13 column ("The legacy of modern day lynching"), the Barbara Schiller Commemorative Clinic staff are grateful to her for getting the word out that women who have been sexually assaulted and persecuted by her as being "bizarre," "so-called victims," "on the bandwagon of the nation's national state," in "Canada's Promised Silence" need look no further than the Schiller Clinic. Barbara Schiller was a woman who was sexually assaulted and murdered in 1980, and it is in her honor that this legal services and consulting clinic was named.

Leanne Bryson,
Mary Lou Faust,
Barbara Schiller Commemorative Clinic,
Toronto

I applaud Barbara Aniel for being inclusive and unbiased before the power of the single-minded feminist movement. People must speak out against the barbarism and bullying that is so prevalent in the feminist policies of today.

Merjorie Shepherd,
Peterborough, Ont

I agree with Barbara Aniel that women who falsely accuse men of sexual assault do women a disservice, but Aniel is also having fun with it. What about all the women who are beaten, raped and murdered by boyfriends, husbands and strangers? The men who assault women are as mentally sick as the women who talk about. For every person who files a false report, there are thousands of women who never report an assault because of being victimized again in court.

Audrey Bell,
Grandview, Ont

Reader's blues

I found Alan Fotheringham's column "The Channel surfer blues" (Aug. 13) narrow-minded. For those of us living in Canada who have an interest in parts of the world that are "of no consequence to the average citizen of Ontario or Quebec," his comments are offensive. The thousands of Hindus, Sikanders or Russians immigrants living in this country would not share his opinion. No one who has left behind family or friends would say that the new lines those countries are offering. I am in tears when I see yet another place I have dreamed of because incapacity to live and let live.

Jennifer Fleming,
Bridges, Ont

So Haiti is "about as important as Yellowknife"? Our vibrant city is hardly a metaphor for underdevelopment. But I'm really concerned about Fredericton's tired cynicism. Yellowknife is people. Haiti is people. Everyone is as important as both itself. And how are we as a nation as to be the heart of this world.

Ramona Allison,
Yellowknife

'From sea to sea'

I "Rising since 1992" (Business, July 10), a chart showed vacancy rates in office space across Canada, from Montreal to Vancouver. Have the Atlantic provinces separated from the central and western provinces? Across Canada used to mean "from sea to sea."

Lillian Gossens,
Delton, N.S.

Fighting extinction

Your story on Paul Watson ("Canada's Earth warrior," Environment, July 24) provides a great example of why people lead the environmental movement. The results have taken over. I refuse to call myself an environmentalist—that label now seems to mean that you are anti-human. Yes, Mr.



Environmentalist Paul Watson: a confusion of values in today's world

Watson, there is a confusion of values in the world today—because people like you would destroy the world in order to save it from being exploited by others.

Mike Tasdemir,
Montgomery, Ala

Many of us have heard of Paul Watson prior to your article, even witnessed his vigilance

actions on TV. I'm sure there are many people who feel that he is a renegade. I take my hat off to him. It is quite refreshing to see one man take such action in fighting for the environment. If there were more people with the same determination as he, maybe extinction in the animal kingdom would be something even our children wouldn't consider!

Jeff Gordon,
Guelph, Ont

Old war, old adage

"Think you're the excellent coverage of 'The new war on breast cancer' (Cover, July 13), although it's not actually a new war. Women have been dying from breast cancer for far too long. Kudos to Marlene's for understanding the old adage that the personal is political."

Nahela Zibari,
Toronto

As a 38-year-old breast-cancer patient, I am painfully aware of this epidemic in Canada. The shock, fear and spiritual anguish are devastating. Your whole issue personifies attitudes, misconceptions and the lack of empathy by surgeons in Canada. But surely this is not an accurate portrait of most Canadian doctors. My doctor has been direct and honest, but compassionate, making me feel less isolated and frustrated. He explained from the beginning that this cancer was not my fault and there was nothing I could have done to prevent it. These statements lifted an enormous burden of guilt from my shoulders. A positive attitude can play a role in recovery and my doctor has made a significant difference in my healing process, because of his accessibility, allowing me to become well-informed and remain cautiously optimistic.

Nancy Connolly,
Calgary

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Champion,
Skip

Nathalie Lambert
Nathalie Lambert
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Katherina Kubenk
1993 World
Freestyle
Ski
Champion

Marnie McBean
Marnie McBean
1991 World
Pairs Rowing
Champion

Kathleen Huddle
Kathleen Huddle
1991 World
Pairs Rowing
Champion

Milkmaid
Milkmaid
1991 World
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OPENING NOTES

A LOOSE PQ CANNON

He was supposed to be one of the star candidates for the Parti Québécois. But since the Quebec election campaign began last month, Richard Le Hir, the former president of the Quebec Manufacturers' Association and one candidate for Bérubé, south of Montreal, has got himself—and his party—into hot political water with his strongly stated opinion about PQ policy and Quebec's future people. His comments have not only angered Quebecers but also alarmed for damage control. Highlights:

"Should there be problems that become unmanageable or detrimental to the Quebec economy, then Quebec would probably move to another currency. Perhaps it might even be the American dollar."

—Richard Le Hir on July 29

"There are hypotheses raised for the future. Mr. Le Hir is not the first to raise this."

"PQ leader Jacques Parizeau, who maintains that a sovereign Quebec would continue to use Canadian currency."

"I had no influence over that."

—Le Hir, on Aug. 1, disagreeing with PQ policy that a sovereign government could begin paying the debt for autonomy before a referendum is held. Le Hir said the policy period has become a PQ candidate in July.

"To say I find this absolute waste of an exogenous time that won't create a crisis."

—Parizeau, in response to Le Hir's comments



Parizeau (left), Le Hir: damage control

"I would have something to learn if it could be demonstrated that [active] culture had proved its superiority in one way or another. But if you consider the heritage left by those civilizations—I see one can find them everywhere—it's very little."

—Le Hir, quoted in an Aug. 5 Montreal TV broadcast of a segment from *Power of the Month*, a 1989 documentary he acted in July

"We recommended the greatest gratitude to our comrades when you are being chased with commensurate about the electoral gladiators."

—from the PQ manifesto *Le Fuc du Parti*, filed by party members on Aug. 7



Hendrix: peace, love and drugs

ROCK SCHOOL

Three years after 'Woodstock' secured his place in rock 'n' roll history, the legacy of Jimi Hendrix remains very much alive. According to 15-year-old Al Hendrix, the guitar player's father, people are constantly asking about Jimi, who died of a drug overdose in 1970 at age 27. Recently, the senior Hendrix, who lives in Seattle, the site of the University of Victoria's school of music, has returned to assist in a classroom of 45 undergraduate students and guests about his son. Taught by Bob Priest, "Electric Gypsy: The Life and Music of Jimi Hendrix" is an intense three-week course—worth 1½ credits—featuring lectures, films, exams and term papers. It is the first course in the world devoted exclusively to the guitarist's short-lived career. "Within his work, you can find the entire history of the blues," says Priest, 43, a doctoral candidate in music who says Hendrix performs four times between 1966 and 1968. Beyond that, Priest claims that Hendrix's life and work—especially peace, love and psychedelics—drove past—embodied the social and political currents of the 1960s and 1970s. Al Hendrix says he is touched by the course and carried on his son's music. "I stalked me very proud," he told Michael's. "Most of these kids weren't even born when Jimi was playing." But once these students discovered that he had more in common with the Hendrix family than they could have imagined. Al Hendrix was born and grew up in Vancouver, and lived for two years in Vietnam before moving to Seattle in 1968. And in 1968, Jimi briefly attended Vancouver's Dawson Annex Elementary school while staying with a relative. Gypsy, 13?

GLIDING INTO POSITION?

With only four months left in Gov. Roy Bell's term, media speculation has been rife that Prime Minister Jean Chrétien will endorse the recent loss of potential governors general—that is, other politicians—and appoint a candidate from a more popular roster. Jean Belliveau, 62, was a state centre with the 1982 Montreal Canada from 1982 to 1991. Now, he is the only one to have succeeded Hnatyuk. Indeed, some officials in the Prime Minister's Office say privately that they have been pushing for his appointment since before Chrétien's election last fall. Belliveau, however, told *Maclean's* that being offered the job would "present



"a difficult situation." Still Belliveau, who is married with one daughter and two grandchildren, "I retired from a Canadian head office job" because I wanted more free time." But, he added, "when your country is calling on you, what do you do?" Twelve years, Québécois Belliveau says he has always been a federalist. But as a potential representative of Queen Elizabeth II, is he a royal chap? "Let's put it that way," he replied justly. "I am a great admirer of the Queen Mother, the Queen and Prince Philip. But I am not the greatest admirer of the younger generation of the monarchy." He may one day be the Queen's representative—but he will have a mind of his own.

Belliveau: "a great honour"

PASSAGES

RECOVERING: Two-hill ballplayer and second baseman, A. Simpson, 47, after undergoing major surgery at Cedars-Sinai Hospital, near Beverly Hills, Calif. Doctors took a long list of swollen lymph nodes under Simpson's armpits because he was suffering from "bleeding night sweats" and had a family history of cancer. Simpson was placed not only in the June 12 roundup of tests with Nicole Brown-Simpson, 35, and her friend Ronald Goldman, 25, July selection in his list is scheduled to begin on Oct. 19.



INDICTED: Alan Eagleson, 61, on two additional counts of fraud, by a U.S. grand jury in Boston investigating his term as executive director of the NHL Players' Association from 1987 to 1991. In March, the same grand jury indicted him on 32 counts of racketeering, mail fraud, taking kickbacks, concealment and falsifying a sworn jury witness. Eagleson denies the charges and said that he welcomes a U.S. extradition request in order to learn his fate after his alleged wrongdoing.

DIED: NATO Secretary General Manfred Wommersley, 68, the first German to hold the post, of cancer at Brynath, in Germany, on Sept. 13. A top executive involved with the case of the Cold War and attempts to find a new role for the alliance in European security.

FUED: Bangladesh former author Taslimia Narm, 32, in Sweden, after she wrote from India a review in her husband. She has been in hiding since the Bangladesh government ordered her arrest in June after an Indian newspaper quoted her saying that the Kamas, India's holy book, should be "revived through slavery." Narm claims she was targeted.

DIED: British actor Peter Cushing, 61, best known for his appearances in horror films, including the 1966 remake of *Dracula*, of cancer, in Canterbury, England.

GRANTED: To pop superstar Madonna, 35, a restraining order prohibiting Howard Stern, 36, from coming within 300 ft of her. By a Los Angeles Superior Court. Lawrence had allegedly been molesting the singer for two weeks before he was arrested after climbing a fence outside her estate on July 18.

DEFENDED: Cuban basketball player Richard McManis and Augusto Dagnanese, both 24, during the world basketball championships, in Toronto.

WORD FOR WORD

BEST-SELLERS

FICTION

1. *The Godfather Part II*, Mario Puzo (D)
2. *The Bridges of Madison County*, John McEwan (D)
3. *Breathless*, Jean-Paul Sartre (D)
4. *The Godfather*, Mario Puzo (D)
5. *The Godfather Part II*, Mario Puzo (D)
6. *The Godfather*, Mario Puzo (D)
7. *The Godfather*, Mario Puzo (D)
8. *The Godfather*, Mario Puzo (D)
9. *The Godfather*, Mario Puzo (D)
10. *The Godfather*, Mario Puzo (D)

NONFICTION

1. *Kids Are Worth It*, Barbara Ehrenreich (D)
2. *Emerson's Life*, John F. Kennedy (D)
3. *In the Kitchen with Rick*, John F. Kennedy (D)
4. *Monday Through Monday*, John F. Kennedy (D)
5. *The Perfect Storm*, Sebastian Junger (D)
6. *A Journey Through Economic Times*, John F. Kennedy (D)
7. *The Way We Are*, Margaret Thatcher (D)
8. *October 1964*, David Halberstam (D)
9. *The American*, John F. Kennedy (D)
10. *The Constitution's Children*, John F. Kennedy (D)

1. Photos by David

Compiled by Brian Kopp

Touche fighting against 'a lot of discrimination'

Council ordered that the law be revised, saying that it infringed on freedom of expression guaranteed in the 1989 Declaration of the Rights of Man.

Last week, the ruling French government responded from five Quebec nationalists who wrote to a French newspaper to voice their concerns about the future of French in France.

The newspaper was *Le Monde*, author of the 1977 Quebec law limiting the public and business use of English. (In French country, that law has also been deemed a violation of civil liberties—the Supreme Court of Canada declared it so in 1989.) But the legislation remains, because the Quebec government wanted the Canadian Constitution's unwritten clause 150 regarding the rights of French and English-speaking Quebecers might be forgotten for not saving the difference.

POP MOVIES

Top movies in Canada, ranked according to box office receipts during the seven days that ended on Aug. 11 (in brackets: number of accounts/weeks shown)

1. *The Mask* (16/12) \$1,045,000
2. *Clear and Present Danger* (10/12) \$1,019,000
3. *True Lies* (12/11) \$1,000,000
4. *Forrest Gump* (12/11) \$1,000,000
5. *The Lion King* (12/11) \$1,000,000
6. *The Client* (10/12) \$1,000,000
7. *The Little Rascals* (12/11) \$1,000,000
8. *It Could Happen to You* (12/11) \$1,000,000
9. *Speed* (12/11) \$1,000,000
10. *Midnight* (12/11) \$1,000,000

SOURCE: EXHIBITOR DATA INC.

Edited by JUNE CHERLEY

MINORITY APPEAL

The PQ's attempt to woo non-francophones is failing

Among the followers of the Parti Québécois, he is affectionately known quite simply as "Pope." It is a sobriquet that Giuseppe Sciorra clearly delights in wearing almost as much as the party itself enjoys wearing it. For well over a week, the bearded 44-year-old Montreal labor lawyer was one of the rising stars in the *Projet* movement, a protégé of PQ leader Jacques Parizeau with a proven track record in the party's chief policy maker and the proud proprietor of period ethnic columns. As a Sicilian-born immigrant, he was widely regarded as the individual who might finally help the PQ shed its image as the exclusive preserve of Quebec's French-speaking majority. But those hopes collapsed in a crowded church basement with the shadow of Mount Royal last week, when a group of vocal crowd party stalwarts decried the party boss and deposed Parizeau to the nomination as the PQ candidate in the downtown Montreal riding of Mexico.

"That's life," a grin-faced Sciorra briefly commented, moments after he was defeated by veteran Montreal city councillor Robert Proulx in a noisy, unannounced meeting at the St. Denis church hall. And the Parti Québécois leadership, which had openly backed Sciorra's bid, immediately attempted to downplay the results. "The disappointed," admitted Parizeau, quickly adding that Sciorra's rejection by the members of the *Mercure* riding organization could not be interpreted as a blow against the party's message, and so the largely unpublicized efforts to lead leaders to Quebec's large and still-growing ethnic population, in particular the so-called allophones, was perhaps another tongue-in-cheek jab not "French." "An individual was defeated," he said, "not an entire cultural community."



Sciorra



Johnson (left) with *Projet* Sciorra (right) are among the PQ's efforts to woo the ethnic vote.

The PQ's efforts to woo the ethnic vote were mirrored by similar problems on ethnic fronts last week as the Quebec City campaign built towards the impending

Sept. 12 vote. Based on the heels of the divisive Quebec election, Sciorra's campaign had come under a series of largely self-inflicted blows. Among the most damaging was an inadvertently leaked internal party survey that appeared to indicate that ethnic Québécois leader Lucien Bouchard's entry to the campaign was hurting, rather than helping, the PQ election effort. That sent Parizeau and other party leaders scrambling to repair the damage, but it underscored the continuing confusion that has dogged the Parti Québécois almost from the moment the campaign began.

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Public opinion surveys may well reflect that fact. Polls conducted during the PQ's endorsement indicated that Quebec Premier Daniel Johnson's Liberals had cut into the PQ's vote considerably. First, a poll by the Montreal-based Centre de recherches sur l'opinion publique (CROP) between Ja-



by 28 and Aug. 2 for *La Presse* and Radio-Canada, the CROP's French-language network, showed the Liberals narrowing the PQ lead to only two percentage points, a dramatic drop from a 16-point gap in a CROP survey conducted one week earlier. The PQ held a 50-point edge in polling from Aug. 15 to Aug. 19 by Montreal's *L'Espresso* and *Le Journal de Montréal*. In both cases, the PQ enjoyed a much more favorable lead among French-speaking voters alone. On election day, that would translate into a substantial PQ victory—between 80 and 90 seats in the 125-seat Quebec National Assembly.

Still, the polls point to potential problems for the *Projet*. Parizeau certainly seemed

to think so. He noticeably changed tactics in the wake of the CROP survey. Parizeau shifted from emphasizing the PQ's separatist platform to portraying his party in an address late in a Liberal regime lauded after nine years in power.

"The effort was not entirely successful. Only a day after signalling the tactical switch, Parizeau could not resist promoting Gospel fishermen water access in Canadian waters as part of an independent Quebec that they currently enjoy in each provincial corner of the country where, he claimed, they were nothing more than "prisoners of the Gulf of St. Lawrence." And later in the week, he told an audience in Quebec City that indepen-

Parizeau (left) with Parizeau reaching out to ethnic Québécois

dence would reject new life in the still old provincial capital, with foreign embassies, new government buildings, research centres, a supreme court and an official residence for himself, the head of the new government. "There's going to be a boom for one obvious reason," he assured to a delighted crowd in a city where much of the population is composed of personal child servants. "There will be new functions generated from Quebec. The dancing mechanisms of deposit banks, which had never been here before and were in Ottawa, will move here. A lot of research activity that is linked to government operations in the Ottawa region will have to relocate here."

The remarks disappointed some of Parizeau's own supporters, warning as they did similar unrealistic pledges he had made a week earlier concerning \$127 million in projects for his own U.S.-inspired riding northwest of Montreal. But they were quickly swept away by the Liberals as he made another example of what Johnson described as the PQ's plan to transform Quebec into "an isolated, interventionist, protectionist country."

But Johnson and his Liberal party had their own problems last week. Like the *Projet*, the Liberals too, continued to be plagued by unforeseen setbacks. In one of the more striking examples of the party's woes, Johnson's effort to pass a free trade bill, the economic consequences of votes electing a PQ government was sidetracked from a most unlikely source—the Royal Bank of Canada. In an economic forecast, the bank projected that Quebec's growth would likely outpace the national average in 1995—era with the PQ in power. It was the province's economy would expand by 4.2 per cent next year in comparison with an overall countrywide growth of four per cent.

For the Quebec premier, the timing could not have been worse. The Royal Bank's forecast, prepared by chief economist John McCallum, occurred at almost the same moment as the Liberals released their own analysis of the PQ's economic platform. Instead of being allowed to focus on the PQ's shortcomings, Johnson was forced to barely suggest that the bank's forecast had not paid enough attention to the *Projet*'s proposed economic policies while making his predictions. "I'm going to send him a copy of the PQ program," the premier remarked. "I don't think he has read it very closely."

On the ethnic front, however, the Liberals were on much firmer ground in the wake of the unhappy fate that befell Pope Sciorra in his attempt to win the loyalty of the PQ's multilingual minority. "If a city what happened to Sciorra in Montreal," says Montreal-born Pierre Houffé-Pierre, the Liberal candidate in the riding of La Plaine in Montreal's Jewish ethnic suburbs on the north shore of the St. Lawrence river. "But it's typical of the PQ's approach to the province's cul-

QUEBEC'S CAMPAIGN: WEEK 3

- A likely boost by the Royal Bank of Canada, taking into account the possibility of a Parti Québécois election win, forecast more growth in the Quebec economy.
- PQ leader Jacques Parizeau and ethnic Québécois leader Lucie Bouchard shared in stage of a PQ nomination strategy to reduce indications of political differences.
- Montreal's Liberal Premier Michel Jean Charbonneau called on Prime Minister Jean Chrétien to enter the provincial campaign and challenged former prime minister Pierre Trudeau to debate him on Quebec sovereignty. Charbonneau declined; Trudeau did not respond.
- Federal Tory leader Jean Charest offered to speak out for Liberal Premier Daniel Johnson.

"They [Quebec voters] will not destroy the best country in the world for an adventure."

—Jean Chrétien

tant organizations, far over 60,000 had won their own status, he would still have been nothing more than a symbol." According to the 42-year-old social activist and leader of Montreal's North African community who once flirted with the nationalist cause himself, Patenaud and the Parti Québécois are "simply at the business of obtaining cultural diversity." The PQ is really only looking for symbols to soothe the fears the cultural communities harbor about Quebec independence.

Sylvain Duro, a political scientist at the University of Montreal, agrees. "The PQ is well aware that it has to use symbols to soothe the emotions," he says. "What they want to do is not creating a strong opposition, a potentially violent opposition. They want to convince the minorities in this province first, while they may not like the views of Quebec independence, but they should be prepared to live with it if the francophone majority rules for it."

All the latest polls tend to support that view. The recent CBC survey, for example, found that the Euxiens are currently standing close to 80 per cent of the non-francophone vote. Even the Republicans, in their more radical moments, are well aware of the situation. "We are not going to capture more than 10 of the 30 seats on the island of Montreal," confesses PQ MP Michel Boivin, seeking re-election in the crucial Montreal riding of Beauport. "All the reasons for that is that we are not going to be able to persuade the vast majority of the anglophones and the allophones on the island to vote for us."

The PQ's senior planners are confident the situation will change eventually. "That is going to take patience and time, a lot of time," admits party vice-president and PQ candidate Bernard Landry, a key figure in the party's long-term program to build bridges to the ethnic communities. In the short term, however, the situation is dire enough in its implications. For it suggests that it is, as the party currently envisions, the Parti Québécois will have the next government of Quebec, it will not be a government that successfully respects the multicultural and multiracial nature of the province. And that is a situation fraught with peril.

"All of which helps to explain why Landry, along with the entire PQ hierarchy and a good portion of the more thoughtful members among the party's rank and file, supports the Parti Québécois's leader, the Marquis, nomination, a riding held since 1996 by the PQ's Gerald Godin, who is not seeking re-election because of ill health. It elected Scottiano would almost certainly have won a key cabinet position in a future PQ government. But at the time, he would have been a start. Unfortunately, the Progressives in Montreal did agree.

Mutual Separatism

François Alos is the newest coach in the Quebec league, and his son, Monic, is so popular he was hired to endorse a sports—



INSIDE QUEBEC

BY BENOIT AUBIN

simply ignore all things Quebecois—with the biggest exception not shared by any local residents at the time table.

English-language radio spent a lot of money covering the Quebec election of Sept. 12. But, as often as not, their work is here in this election going to affect us.

The enracinement that has grown between Quebecers and "real" Canadians since the dismissal of the "silent majority" clause with the failure of the Meech Lake accord in 1990 may account for the last ditch of the eyes of Quebecers. Quebec and its personal separation have become a local problem reflected upon the whole of the land, rather than the symptom of a much larger, and national, problem.

Hence, the explosion of tensions throughout the province that the problem has not gone away. Hence, the constant threat of political and economic retaliation if Quebec "breaks up" the country. Hence the hostility towards La Presse, the Quebecer and the English-speaking press.

There has been a problem in recent national politics Quebec is not immune. Blaming its Angles for everything going wrong in the province has long been a ministry of Quebec politics. But, for many Canadians, Quebecers are to blame for almost everything wrong with Canada.

While Canadian media cover the Quebec election with an eye on the state of the nation, Quebecers have given freely a thought to other Canadians and their concerns in the campaign. Senator Jean-Claude Rivest once quipped that Quebecers and other Canadians can live in perfect peace and harmony, provided they never speak of the same thing at the same time. We are almost there: peace and harmony through mutual ignorance. Too bad there is a referendum looming down the pipe.

Benoit Aubin is a managing editor of *Le Devoir* in Montreal.



Expo 93 Canadiens (left) and Expos (right) players on the field.

LEADING THE PACK

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's Liberals held a huge lead in popularity over other federal parties represented in Parliament with nearly 58 per cent support in the latest Gallup poll. The survey, conducted in early August, placed the Reform party far behind with 12 per cent, followed by the Conservatives (11 per cent), the Bloc Québécois (9 per cent) and the New Democratic Party (seven per cent).

A ROYAL INVITATION

Five Sikh veterans, banned from the Royal Canadian Legion for wearing turbans, will join Queen Elizabeth II for her Aug. 30 during her visit to the Commonwealth Games in Victoria. At the Legion's national convention in May, delegates overwhelmingly rejected a bylaw that would have allowed Sikhs, Jews, or others to wear religious headgear in their branches.

PENTICTON ARSON SUSPECT

Police charged Blake Kruger, a 19-year-old firefighter's son, with arson in a wildfire that earlier this month burned out of control near the Okanagan Valley resort town of Penticton, B.C. The blaze destroyed 18 houses, burned about 13,000 acres and forced more than 3,000 people to evacuate their homes.

A CALL FOR EFFICIENCY

A federal provincial report by deputy health ministers said that Quebec hospitals admit too many patients who are not acutely ill and could be treated in less expensive ways. The study recommended that administrators of the hospitals—which account for 40 per cent, or about \$30 billion, of the national health-care budget—take steps to reduce unnecessary admissions.

END OF AN ERA

Military personnel at Canadian Forces Base Lahr in Germany officially closed the camp, ceremoniously lowering the Maple flag for the last time. The return home of the remaining 36 troops ends 27 years of Canadian NATO service in Europe.

DANGEROUS TIMES

In his annual report, federal privacy commissioner Bruce Phillips warned that Canada's growing information highway needs legal "rails of safety" to protect personal information. With consumers increasingly having the electronic means to do everything from paying bills to online news without leaving home, Phillips said, Canadians could find their behavior monitored and the data used and sold for purposes they never intended.

Canada NOTES



NATIVE BLOCKADE: Ontario Provincial Police Const. Ian Borden arrests Alex Mathias of the Makomakom Anishinabe Indian band for participating in a blockade in River Valley, Ont., 78 km east of Sudbury. Several natives were arrested for mischief and obstruction after they tried to prevent logging trucks from using the road to reach nearby forests.

A TB scare

Health authorities in Ottawa and two provinces attempted to track down some 1,800 people who came into contact with two doctors diagnosed with infectious tuberculosis. The scares of the two men—classmates at the University of Alberta in Edmonton who graduated this spring—were not related. One, however, had been attending at Edmonton's Grey Nuns hospital. The other had been working at Ontario's Kingston General Hospital.

The Edmonton physician, the first to be diagnosed with the disease, discovered that he was sick on July 21. Since then, he has been in isolation and quarantining well to medical care. Before his hospitalization, though, he had been coughing and was capable of spreading the disease. Included in those who may have been exposed were about 400 passengers on an international airline flight he was on. The second man looked positive to the disease but work at receiving a letter from the University of Alberta saying his classmates had the disease.

Tuberculosis, which usually affects the lungs, is transmitted by airborne droplets. It can only be spread by someone who has it at the time and who is coughing or sneezing. Once treated with antibiotic drugs, a patient normally stops being infectious within two weeks. Unreated, a person can die. Nationally, there are about 2,000 TB cases a year. In 1992, there were 148 deaths.

Cracking down

In separate incidents, two American fishing vessels were seized, one by its own countrymen, for allegedly violating Canadian fishing regulations. The Canadian Pacific steamer *California* intercepted the trawler *Golden* on the tip of Newfoundland's Grand Banks where it was allegedly fishing for haddock inside Canada's 200-mile limit. Another American vessel, the *Andrea Vega*, was seized by a U.S. Coast Guard patrol ship after it was allegedly caught fishing for scallops and flounder in Canadian waters off Nova Scotia.

WORLD

VOTING BY ROTE

Mexico's PRI seeks a 12th victory

In a Chiapaske, Mexico, in the land of ranches and desert and red mountains, Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon, presidential candidate of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party and likely victor in the Aug. 21 elections, has drawn an over-flow crowd. The saddle-backed municipal politician, usually seen in grey suits and basketball shoes, is literally perched to the right as an audience when the outside temperature is climbing towards 35° C and the interior temperature is simply stifling. Blouses in the second colors of red, white and green hang limply in the stall air. The colors of the flag are also the colors of Zedillo's party, known by the acronym PRI, which has never been shy about mixing partisan and national interest. And in the closing days of the election, that political race seems to be paying off again, pointing the way to yet another PRI victory. In past years its most dazzling, the party's 12th consecutive triumph since 1929.

The usual support in the audience is cranked up to full volume, and Zedillo's words are the common shot. His supporters interrupt often with applause, as when he promises a free breakfast program for poor schoolchildren. But in this land, and elsewhere in Mexico, all is not as it first seems. Not everyone claps, not everyone cheers. Many just sit, leaning themselves with contempt. Minutes. After 26 minutes, with the candidate still speaking, people begin to leave. So-called *armados* are among them, but two young men pulling so far apart, motion to get home and play with their friends. She expresses ambivalence about the PRI's candidate for president. "He's good," she says, "but the others are also good."

If the PRI wins, it will not be because of any overpowering affection for the party that has dominated Mexican political life for most of this century, but rather that many Mexicans simply cannot conceive of life without it. They are like Ricardo, a middle-aged Mexico City cabdriver who says that he will vote for the PRI because, quite simply, at least he knows who to pay off. At a time of national turmoil, voters are staying with what they know. "Sometimes I am surprised why people say they are going to vote for the PRI," says Sergio Sarmiento, editorial director of



ASSIGNMENT

WARREN CARAGATA
IN MEXICO

Mexico's *El Financiero* businessman and columnist for the daily *El Financiero* in a Mexico full of new risks brought by economic upheaval and free trade with Canada and the United States, that does not seem to be the time for political experimentation. "When Mexicans thought about a real divorce from the PRI, they thought twice," says pollster Vicente Lozano y Gallo, director general of *Indemora/Losada*.

The PRI, well financed and well organized, has now built a solid lead in the polls over the center-right National Action Party (PAN) led by lawyer Diego Fernández de Cevallos and the second democratic party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD) led by Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas Solís, the son of a former president. In congressional elections that will

be held the same day, the party also seems insured of victory. But whether or the result, the business climate is unlikely to change, because all three major parties generally support the economic changes promoted by Carlos Salinas de Gortari, whose six-year term as president ends with the swearing in of his successor on Dec. 1. Barring an upset, the key issue then will be not so much who will replace Salinas at Las Pinas, the presidential compound, and what policies he will pursue, but whether the PRI can win the election fair and square—and even if it does, whether Mexicans will believe that the results are untainted by the kind of massive electoral fraud that many say robbed Cardenas of victory in 1988 (page 18).

■ Zedillo on the campaign trail: Zapata rebel (below) worry and debate about possible protection violence



In a country that this year has seen a rash of turmoil—no armed rebellion in the poor southern state of Chiapas, the assassination of Zedillo's predecessor, Luis Donaldo Coloso, and two high profile kidnappings—the possibility of a new round of violence after Sunday's election has occasioned considerable worry and debate. "There is very marked fear everywhere," Sarmiento says. "First new appears to be the driving force in Mexican politics, and it is working to the advantage of the PRI. It is helping voters forget their problems, and answering the question posed by Federico Estévez, an expert on Mexican politics at the Autonomous Technological Institute in Mexico City: 'In the middle of a recession and with growing unemployment and corruption, how can there be a PRI loss?'"

In the closing weeks of the campaign, the ruling party has tried to build on the apprehensions with two new ad campaigns. One, used for bumper stickers and street banners, alludes with no subtlety at all that a vote for Zedillo is a "vote for peace." The other, on television, repeated among the strong mayopos, reminds Mexicans that the opposition parties have no experience in governing. It is a campaign that evidently strikes a chord. "The PRI will win because people

know the PRI," says a round-faced, cheerful Mexico City man named José Morales "Cierdena," as one knows. The PAN, as one knows. He moves his hand dismissively. In fact, the PAN can trace the roots of a European Christian Democratic party and making its strategic showing over, has also made a nod to voter reality. It abandoned a harder-edged but powerful slogan calling for a "Mexico without lies" for one that prohibits the party as "the only safe change."

The mood of anxiety created by the Zapata revolt in Chiapas as January and the assassination of Coloso in March has rebounded as hardest against Cierdena. He and his supporters complain of cozy secret deals between the PRI and the PAN and make claims about dirty deals and outright manipulation and violence at the hands of the PRI, including what they say was the attempted assassination of a PRI candidate in Chiapas, injured when the car he was riding in was hit by a tanker truck. "We've seen a very dirty process," Cierdena told *Milenio*. But political expert Estévez says the likely defeat of the PRI will have little to do with fraud. "They are going to lose, and they are going to lose big because of the security problems this year, starting with Chiapas," he said, arguing

that right wing parties are the usual winners when law and order becomes an election issue. "All of that turbulence has caused the electorate to abandon the left."

Cierdena has certainly not helped himself by making a summer campaign trip to the Lacandon jungle to meet Subcomandante Marcos, the Zapatista guerrilla leader. The PRI was the only party to officially take part in a Zapatista-sponsored convention last week that denounced an end to PRI rule and a new constitution. And Cierdena is building on the possibility that he will orchestrate a campaign of post-election street protests if he detects signs of fraud behind a PRI victory. As his campaign bus takes him from one waiting client neighborhood to another on the mountainous fringes of Mexico City, Cierdena says the people are ready to pay what he promises will be a nonviolent protest: "I would say, not only ready, but willing. They are fed up." That pledge, and the red flag showing clenched fists that fly at Cierdena rallies, serve only to drive more middle-class voters away, says political consultant Luis Medina Peña, an academic and former diplomat who has done time for the PRI. "Cierdena has made many mistakes."

The three main candidates have made

different contemporary styles. Cardenas is a soft-faced man with a somber manner and a plodding but sincere style. Zedillo looks like the president of a high-school math club beamed down without warning to the political stage. While he has improved his delivery, he sometimes looks a bit stiff and acts his audience to appeal just before he delivers his big line. And when Zedillo does get a night, he is noticeably pleased with himself. The champion congressman in PAN's Peninsula, an energetic and bawdy man with a wayward and a congenial cigar, who has succeeded in making his party a clear alternative to the PRI.

On a recent trip to Toluca, an oil town northeast of Mexico City near the Gulf coast, he presented that a PAN government would never privatize the great PEMEX oil monopoly and said that too many of the benefits from the oil fields end up in the hands of friends of the ruling party. Such remarks were taken in a town where oil pumps sit alongside school soccer fields, and a farm south of oil hangs in the tropical air. The area has the reputation as a PRI stronghold, but Ferrasides managed to attract 2,000 people to the main square, including street vendors hawking tortillas soap and beefed corn. Remarks over, cigar in hand, he then stepped from the platform into the crowd, enjoying every back slap and handclasp.

That may reassure his lawyer's delivery and evasive political skills made Ferrasides the chief vector in Mexico's fastest-evolving leaders debate, itself not another sign of increasing political freedoms. In the wake of the May 15 debate, polls began to show a distancing PAN lead. Some surveys actually suggested that Mexico was ready to turn its back on the PRI after 65 years. Two things have happened, says pollster Iacono. People began to contemplate life under new management and put nervous. And for the first time in its history, the PRI got scared. It also helped that for some inescapable reason, Ferrasides took his days off at the height of the campaign. "These six days far more as an attorney," says IACN secretary general, Felipe Calderon Hinojosa.

The PAN's advantages are lengthy—and legal. Over the years, it has built up a powerful political machine. That power is evident in the party's Mexico City headquarters. While the PAN has a small office building in the south end of the capital, the PRI has what amounts to a campus, a full square block on the northern edge of the business district—containing an office tower topped with a giant Zedillo billboard, two smaller office build-

ings and an auditorium that would make any midsize Canadian city proud—all surrounded with a high steel security fence. Of the three major parties, only the PRI will be able to muster sufficient manpower to provide scrutineers at all of the approximately 95,000 polling places.

The party is everywhere. In southern Mexico, where the PAN has as much of a strong hold as it has anywhere, the PRI is able to mount dozens of political muscle like the crowd that met Zedillo in Chihuahua. In the

opposition has cried foul the loudest about it. Proseguo, an agricultural supplier scheme set up last autumn that guarantees direct pay to farmers. Proseguo has a 2004 budget of \$4.7 million. The opposition contends that much of that money is being spent in the months preceding the election.

The PRI also has a huge media advantage. Its financial clout allows it to pay the airwaves for paid advertisements. A study by Alamos Cienca showed that in one seven-day period in July in both major channels, only the PRI had

'The media in Mexico are not always on the side of truth'



Ferrasides (left), Cordero (center), general support for economic reforms provided by outgoing President Salinas

natural south, it is the party to beat. Among the urban and rural poor, where Cardenas gets considerable support, it is the PRI that is the chief antagonist. Whenever there are plans to launch for an opposition candidate, among like flags at a hand car lot above the street, there will be an equal number for Zedillo. In the cities, where the opposition is strongest, the PRI is the chief rival.

Along among Mexican parties, only the PRI will be able to spend to the limit of \$80 million on campaign expenses. The PAN will spend as much as \$6 million, the PRI only a third of that. Sergio Aguayo, a leader of Alamos Cienca, Mexico's largest election-maintenance group says there is a suggestion that the PRI will spend even more than allowed. But he cannot prove it because demands for independent audits of party financing have been rejected by the Salinas government. Aguayo also says, choosing his words with great care, that there is a "widespread belief, true or not," that the PRI is using government money for its campaign. What is certain is that the government—like governments everywhere—has pork barrel programs that can only help the reputation of the ruling party among those in receipt of state funds. One program that the

say says in all. Aguayo also says that while there has been improvement, there is more to be done in terms of reporting that news Zedillo got the most and best coverage. "The media in Mexico," says PAN's Ferrasides, "they are not always on the side of truth. There is a great manipulation of information."

While the PRI is promising that this time the elections will be clean, many of the party's critics say the power brokers may just cheat out of what is what would amount to "party state funds" in the words of political expert Etkind. Election reforms have made 100% safe vote-counting next to impossible, according to Canadian journalist David Wilfield, who adds that he is "hopeful" that the election will be conducted fairly. "Mexico is trying hard," says Brian Stevenson, a colleague of Etkind and a Mexican Canadian, says the party does not really have to break the rules, given its advantage in organization and a divided opposition. "The real question is not whether the PRI will cheat but whether it will have to," he says.

The economic reforms sponsored by Salinas during his six-year term as president—free trade and large-scale privatizations—have hit Mexico hard. And if 1994

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MACLEAN'S CONGRATULATES

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THE MANITOBA MOTOR DEALERS ASSOCIATION 1994 MACLEAN'S DEALER OF EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNER

Born the same year the Manitoba Motor Dealers Association was started, Bob Cross was practically raised in the auto industry—from his student days working after-school at the local General Motors—to becoming dealer principal of Cross-Town Nissan dealership in Roblin, Manitoba.

One of the oldest family dealerships in North America, Cross-Town Motors began in 1918. In 1966, Bob took over the dealership from his father, continuing to serve the community of Roblin, Manitoba with the same loyalty and regard for customer satisfaction as his forefathers had.

Cross Motors employs a dedicated staff of 15 and Bob finds time to be an active volunteer in many community associations including the Roblin Kiwanis Club, Roblin Museum Lodge, and ACC. Past and Present Advisory Board member.

Bob is also part of an eight-member GM Communications Team that serves as a liaison between GM Canada and its dealers throughout Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and northwestern Ontario.

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Maclean's
What Matters in Canada

adjustments were not difficult enough, then came a recession that is officially over but does not feel like it to many Mexicans. The recession and the adjustments in Canada were a double pain compared with what happened here," says Douglas Clark, president of the Canada-Mexico Chamber of Commerce and director general of Northern Telecom's Mexican subsidiary.

The middle class has been particularly squeezed by the reforms. And many, like the Navarro family in the Mexico City suburb of Cuapacoy, where 19th-century Spanish Baroque houses set up homecoming after the conquest, will be coming there to watch the opposition. With their own house (built by Canadian suburban standards) on back from the street, the Navarros enjoy a quality of life that would be the envy of the 40 million Mexicans—mostly campesinos—who live in poverty. All their five children have been able to attend U.S. universities for at least one year, a fact they take great pride in. Trade, OK, the family members say, is great to Carlos Navarro, a well-known Mexican poet, and the matriarch is a small travel agency. Her husband, Umberto, 68, is an accountant.

The house, with its corner walls of white stucco, is decorated with paintings and statuary by three artists son Alberto who grew his parents are day for a modest meal of chicken with white sauce and milk, about justice. Alberto, a bartender, says that he has lost 50 per

cent of his income because of free trade and sharp competition from American publishers. The recession has also cut the income he receives from selling his paintings. "There is no money for art," he says.

And while wages have fallen or remained steady, prices have gone up. "Every day, every day, every day," Tula says with resignation. "The poor stayed poor and the

Amid a rash of turmoil, fear now appears to be the driving force in Mexican politics

middle class became poor," Alberto adds. Like many, he and his father worry that the Mexico now has 24 billionaires compared with two when Salinas took office in 1988. And like most Mexicans, they complain about corruption. Even to get a bank loan requires a bribe to be greased. "The corruption is in the body of the system," Umberto says. The whole family is for Cardenas, but they make two telling points that explain how the

PRC can be poised for victory. The economic reforms imposed by Salinas may hurt now but will leave the country better off in the long run, they agree. And they credit the PRD with maintaining social peace.

Despite what some foreign critics may think, Salinas remains a plan for the PRD. And it is instructive that not even Cardenas wants to undo the outgoing president's economic reforms. Support for Salinas has fallen since the Chaparral revolt and the murder of Colosio, but El Financiero columnist Servino says that a July poll gave the president a still-impressive approval rating of 56 per cent. People are still with the PRD in much because of Salinas as because of Zedillo, says pollster Lacort.

For 60 years, Mexico has been a democracy in name only. But if the PRD can live up to its promises to keep the election relatively honest, live of what political expert Escobar calls the "secrecy imposed fraud" of past elections, the country stands a chance to shake off the remnants of its authoritarian past, without revolutionary violence. "Mexico is not a banana republic," says Canadian businessman Clark. But even domestic critics of the regime. But Mexico City councillor Demetrio Sodé de la Tijera, who broke with the PRD this year and now supports Cardenas, are optimistic. "The great wisdom of Mexico is that at the moment that the country needs some changes, some dialogue, we always do it," says Sodé. That is again Mexico's last.

Levelling the field

Electoral reforms promise fair elections

The memories of 1988 are still vivid. Many Mexicans believe that President Carlos Salinas de Gortari stole that election. The ball-counting computer system mysteriously crashed for several hours, only to come back on-line with numbers showing the ruling party's cohabitee who had been trailing in the lead. Opinion polls indicate that almost half the voters in this Aug. 31 presidential election expect similar dirty tricks this time around—a scenario that could plunge Mexico into chaos. It is a fear that Salinas's Institutional Revolutionary Party, known by the acronym PRI, is determined to avoid. Said Jose Angel Guerra, the party's international affairs secretary: "We are fighting against years of deception and, perhaps, quackery."

Struggling to overcome that credibility gap, the PRI has pledged to make these the "cleanest elections ever." To that end, the Federal Electoral Institute (IFE) spent more than \$1 billion over the past three years to register more than 45 million voters, issue tamper-proof voter identification cards and

fund an independent audit of the newly revised voters list. And in January, an agreement signed between Mexico's main political parties put opposition intellectuals in charge of the IFE, led to 100 per cent positive for election law violators and established a \$55-million cap on campaign spending to neutralize the PRI's huge financial advantage over the opposition. Another government commission allows election monitors to draw more than 21,000 Mexicans to observe the elections. They will be joined by at least 300 "watchers" including former prime minister Jose Clark and 50 other Canadians.

Still, many analysts say that, despite the reforms and the PRI's extraordinary lead in polls, the ruling party has ample opportunity to cheat. Although independent citizens have assumed post positions in the IFE, the vast majority of election officials are PRI supporters. It is their job to select the 40,000 people who will run the polling stations. Even more can



Salinas, bridging a credibility gap

tricksters in the voters list, which the opposition Party of the Democratic Revolution claims is padded with over million "phantom" voters. Said one Canadian official in Mexico City: "It would be one of history's truly amazing miracles to turn around from the last election and find totally clean elections this time."

Indeed, critics have accused state government officials of threatening to identify and fire employees who vote for the opposition. There is mounting evidence that the PRI is attempting to manipulate peasants and urban slum dwellers who are easily swayed by government food handouts or by promises of basic public services. And critics have accused state government and party officials of using public property, such as cars and planes, and civil servants to help the campaign of the PRI presidential candidate. "There is no control at the state or district level," said Jacques Prechard, a political analyst in Mexico City. "I'd predict this will weigh heavily on the political scene."

SCOTT McMISSION in Mexico City

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World NOTES

A MIDDLE EAST MILESTONE

Two weeks after ending a 46-year state of war, Israeli and Jordanian leaders ceremoniously opened a border crossing between their two countries. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Crown Prince Hussein of Jordan cut a white ribbon to open the crossing about three kilometers north of the Red Sea port of Aqaba in Israel and the west of Elot in Israel.

CRIME BILL DEFEATED

In the U.S. House of Representatives, dissident Democrats joined with opposition Republicans to defeat a sweeping \$42-billion crime bill on a procedural vote. The bill, which would have outlawed 19 assault-style weapons and funded the hiring of more police, was a stunning blow to President Bill Clinton, who also faces opposition to his health-care reform bill.

GRIM ANNIVERSARY

Protestant gunmen shot and killed a pregnant Roman Catholic mother and five of her newborns, the 50th anniversary of anti-Catholic and sectarian violence in Northern Ireland this year. The murder coincided with the 20th anniversary of British troops arriving in Ulster, where pro- and anti-sectarian Catholics and Protestant loyalists have been waging a ferment war over the status of the British-ruled province.

A NUCLEAR BREAKTHROUGH

In an effort to settle a standoff over North Korea's disputed nuclear program, the United States pledged to replace the North's graphite-moderated reactors with light-water reactors that produce less weapons-grade plutonium. The two countries also said they were prepared to establish diplomatic representation in each other's capitals.

BOMB SUSPECTS SOUGHT

A Buenos Aires judge issued international arrest warrants for four Iranian diplomats allegedly involved in an Argentine who are suspected of complicity in a July 18 bomb attack that killed 36 people at the offices of the country's main Jewish group.

COUP TRIAL VERDICT

The Russian Supreme Court acquitted former Soviet general forces commander Valentin Varennikov on charges of treason for plotting to overthrow then-President Mikhail Gorbachev in a 1991 coup. Last February, the Russian parliament granted amnesty to 12 other defendants.



Stamp: "I had this fear of making an absolute fool of myself."

"I am just the sort of guy," actor Terence Stamp says, "who could become a transsexual." That remarkable conclusion in the role made at a good deal of soul-searching that the actor undertook before his latest role: a transsexual singer and dancer in *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, a hit, lumpy Australian road movie. At first, the London-based Stamp balked. "I had this fear of making an absolute fool of myself—and never making again." But his friend, actress Caroline Bliss, convinced him otherwise. "She said, 'What are you going to do? Are you going to be

PEOPLE

IF THE BODY FITS

an Englishman in Hollywood movies all your life?" Stamp, best known for his work in the 1960s (*1968*) and *Wall Street* (1987), took the job—though most adorning not only "fearfully uncomfortable" high heels, false breasts and body-hair removal, but also some truths about his own personality. "Ultimately, what I was encountering was a greater aspect of myself in the sense that sexuality and identity are issues," says Stamp. But that is clearly far as his identification with transsexuals goes. "I have always felt," Stamp adds, "that I am exactly the right body."

UNCOMMON TALENT

If the Commonwealth Games have too often lived up to their reputation as the Olympic year second cousin, this week in Victoria could prove to be an exception. At least, it will if the international lineup of musicians playing at the Games' 10-day Harbour Festival have anything to do with it. The Canadian contingent represents a cross-section of the country's regions. From the East Coast *The Rankin Family* who are fast making Celtic-infused tunes a staple of Canadian musical life.

The five-member group's harmonies, which garnered them four Juno Awards earlier this year, reflect their Nova Scotia roots. But singer John Mac-

ris Rankin says that his touch in his repertoire Cape Breton, we also have ourselves as reflecting many aspects of Canadian "being." On the other hand, Quebec duo *Kanishka*, comprising Claude McKenna and Florent Vachon, will perform a less familiar cultural experience: they sing in the loose dialect of eastern Quebec. "I am a singer," says McKenna. "It's very important to be proud of that."

Meanwhile, Montreal-based country act *Michael Wright*, who was born in Chatham, Ont., is looking forward to it. "We're going to have a blast at the Games," says Wright, who claims to be a "happo" (mixed-blood) fan. "If there's time, I would just love to go and watch some of the events." At the festival, Wright will be performing songs from his soon-to-be-released new album, *The Assassin Ship*. That points to another Games benefit for Canadian performers, international exposure. "It's a great opportunity for fans Canadian and to get her music spread around the world a little," says Wright. And so have it that.

Wright performing "A Shot at the Games"

Edited by JOE CHOLEY

ALL THE WORLD'S A RINK

On the ice, former world-champion figure skater Karl Browning is renowned for his artistic impressions—the emotion he conveys by blowing, growling and growling. But last week in Toronto, Browning put his sense of artistry to work in a different forum—in front of a TV camera for a segment of the teen-dance series *Simply Deep*. In the show, which will air this fall on the CanWest Global network, the 24-year-old from Canadian, Alta., plays—of all things—a figure skater who demonstrates the value of perseverance to two



Browning (left), Browning, and a new career?

teenage girls (Liana Bortman and Lani Billard). For the part, he had to fall on his face. "It's one of those really uncomfortable things to get your body to do," Browning says. "It's a lot of work. It's actually trying to fall." Now a professional skater, after his retirement from the amateur ranks in February, Browning acknowledges that "it would be fun to do some more sitting." And he even adds a fantasy movie role: "Kick the city over, and me and Bruce Willis skate around killing bad guys." Sure, maybe in *The Heat 5*.

FROM TORONTO'S NEWS

BACK TO THE GARDEN: It began as a pale imitation of the weekend rave in 26 years ago that defined the 1960s generation. But Woodstock '94 drew more than 300,000 people—many swilling the \$185 price tag and an official ban on drugs and alcohol—to hear some 40 bands on a farm near Saugerties, N.Y. With the pace crushers, torrential rain, and games, at least four deaths and one death of a diabetic on the first day alone, Woodstock 1 resembled the original but for the treating of a pop star and the commercialism. *Woods-Dun* the official live record, Apple the official computer. The theme, they are a disaster.

An ill-fated flight

The ride-home winds of Typhoon Doug flared with the European ball. Airbus 300 carrying 152 passengers and a crew of eight from Seoul as it prepared for a scheduled landing at the South Korean island resort of Cheju. The plane touched down, skidded on the runway, crashed into a safety barrier and caught fire. All those on board escaped moments before the plane blew up and only nine people were slightly hurt.

A lucky escape from serious injury or death? Most certainly. But South Korean police claim the pilot, Canadian Barry Woods, 52, of Vancouver and co-pilot Chang Chien Kyn, 36, may have caused the crash by quarrelling over whether to abort the bad-weather landing. Police said Woods insisted on landing but Chang, apparently afraid,

there was not enough runway left, tried to abort. Woods told police that tail winds blew the plane over the 100-meter down the runway, leaving enough room to land. Chang said the plane was more than 15 km along, which did not leave enough room. Flights are supposed to touch down on the first kilometer of the runway. Police said that during questioning, Woods claimed the Airbus skidded when Chang suddenly attempted to abort the landing 400 m from the end of the runway. The plane crashed into the barrier as the two struggled. Both men, a spokesman added, would be charged with negligence.

Roger Burgess-Woods, a spokesman for the Canadian Airline Pilots Association, said that Woods, an ex-war hero, had, had taken a leave of absence from Canadian Airlines in March, 1993, to fly in Asia. In Vancouver, Woods' brother-in-law Ed Farmer defended him, saying "He saved the plane and he's a hero."



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THE FALL OF A GIANT

Confederation Life is closed down by federal regulators

I was already well past the lunch hour, but there was still a partially filled beer gathering on the table and no movement towards the door. A dozen employees of the beleaguered Confederation Life Insurance Co. were countermanding over their outdoor meal late last week at a normally lively sports bar and restaurant across the street from the company's headquarters in downtown Toronto. The night before, federal regulators had announced that they were taking control of the company after talks between Confederation executives and representatives of a half-dozen other large insurance companies, aimed at organizing a last-minute bailout, collapsed. That evening, Confederation president Paul Carter had promised employees that the company would continue to operate, at least in the short term, but the group at the restaurant was certain that they, and their 4,800 fellow workers, will be out of a job within a matter of months at best. Still, after two years of persistent speculation in the industry that Confederation was in deep financial trouble, no one at the table was surprised by the company's collapse. "I've got my resume in my backpack—I'm not a pig," said one young worker, who requested anonymity. "A couple of months ago, I put one made up because I saw the writing on the wall."

But for the vast majority of Canadians who have long regarded the insurance industry as rock solid—not to mention

solid—the seizure came as a surprise. With \$59.2 billion in assets under management, 125-year-old Confederation is Canada's fifth-largest life insurer. Last week, it became one of the third Canadian company in the history of the industry to collapse outright, following close on the heels of the failures of two smaller companies in 1992: the Copestons Mutual Life Insurance Society of Montreal and the Calgary-based Sovereign Life Insurance Co. Still, Douglas Peters, the secretary of state in charge of financial institutions, as well as many life insurance executives, said that Confederation collapsed because of the company's

overly aggressive real estate investments in the 1980s, not as a result of widespread problems in the industry. They also tried to reassure Confederation's 350,000 Canadian policyholders that the industry's emergency fund, CompCorp, will protect them. However, analysts say that the competitive pressures on life insurers are increasing, and that other companies will likely run into trouble. Said William Andrus, president of Toronto-based TRUI Insurance Services

Confederation Life's new Toronto head office (below). Carter (right) and Zinnerman (far right) at annual meeting in June, aggressive expansion



Inc., which publishes an annual survey rating of Canadian insurers: "There are some pretty close to the edge."

For Confederation's policyholders, the time to panic was last week. The morning after Peters' announcement, they dialed two toll-free telephone information centres that Confederation set up in its Toronto and Montreal offices with hundreds of calls each hour. CompCorp representatives were also on hand to respond to information requests. The fund, set up by the industry in 1986, guarantees the benefits of life insurance policies up to \$200,000 and a maximum of \$60,000 on health claims. It also guarantees up to \$2,000 a month for disability income and annuities. As well, CompCorp provides up to \$60,000 in protection on 100% self-insured interest in some funds. Deposits at Confederation Life, a subsidiary of Confederation Life, are insured by the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation up to a maximum of \$60,000 per depositor. Last week, CompCorp president Alan McGee estimated that more than 30 per cent of Confederation's Canadian policyholders will be fully covered by the fund. But last week, representatives of some of the 3,000 companies who have group insurance, pension and other benefit plans with Confederation said that they will try to shift their business to other insurers, because of doubts about the company's ability to fulfil all of its obligations. Meanwhile, regulators in

the United States and Britain have taken some steps to protect Confederation's more than 250,000 policyholders in those countries.

However, Manson declined to estimate the total cost of bailing out Confederation Life in Canada. Peters has insisted the accounting firm of Peat Marwick Thornton Inc. to help wind up Confederation's operations and sell off its assets. As with any major asset company, the bulk of Confederation's assets are its investments in bonds, stocks, property and mortgages. The company's liabilities extend to the investors that it must not only to ensure that it will be able to pay the benefits that it has promised. Last week, Peters insisted that the disposition of Confederation's assets will not be "a fire sale."

Still, buyers of distressed assets are always in a potential bargaining position. As a result, Confederation's assets will likely be sold at a deep discount. Investors in the asset sales will therefore get [at] short of the company's liabilities—and CompCorp will have to make up the difference. In the case of the Copestons, CompCorp's estimated bill was \$190 million. Sovereign Life, in turn, cost about \$75 million. Although Confederation is more than twice the size of either of those two companies, Manson said that the cost of bailing out Confederation is "clearly within our capacity."

CompCorp, the regulators and the accountants are now stepping in where other large insurance companies failed to tread. In June, Confederation disclosed that it was trying to form an alliance with Great-West Life Insurance Co. of Winnipeg, which would have seen Great-West inject \$450 million in capital into Confederation to shore up its reserves. But that deal fell through in late July.

For the past two weeks, Confederation president Paul Carter has been locked in tense negotiations with his insurers regarding a consortium of a half-dozen other leading insurers, trying to arrange a \$600-million bailout. Those talks collapsed last week. According to Adam Zinnerman, Confederation's chairman, prospects for a deal between what Ottawa refused to grant tax concessions. In a letter to employees, Carter noted: "What we had no realistic prospects for a deal. The regulators had to take us over." Other parties involved in the negotiations declined to discuss any details, but the talks ended in desperation. Said Sun Life president John Gardner: "The challenge put in front of those companies came a bit late and was really quite large."

Still, few people inside or outside Confederation blame Carter, 52, for the company's collapse. A high-profile banker, Carter joined Confederation in October 1982, and immediately set about trying to restructure the company's operations on assets. Under Carter's guidance, CompCorp became a Canadian bank, expanded rapidly following the first phase of financial services deregulation in 1985, hoping to get a jump on its rivals by becoming a one-stop financial services supermarket.

But in doing so, the company began to invest heavily in risky and exotic ventures in Canada and the United States. In 1986, the company completed a glowing new \$100-million, best office building in old headquarters in downtown Toronto. By then, the North American commercial real estate market had tanked. Berni himself, in a pre-mortem interview with *Maclean's* in the fall of 1985, conceded that Confederation had been caught up

TOP FIVE CANADIAN LIFE INSURERS		
Company	Assets (\$ billions)	
1. Sun Life Assurance	\$44.6	
2. Manulife Financial	\$34.3	
3. Great-West Life Assurance	\$22.7	
4. Canada Life Assurance	\$22.0	
5. Confederation Life Insurance	\$19.2	

Business NOTES

GARDENS BRAWL

Greensy tycoon Steve Stacey and a group of charities squared off in court over control of Maple Leaf Gardens Ltd., which owns the Toronto Maple Leafs' hockey team. Stacey is an associate of the estate of Herold Ballard, who left his 80-per-cent block of shares in the company to a group of charities, including the Salvation Army, when he died in 1990. Lawyers for the seven charities went Ontario Court Judge Sidney Lederman to request Stacey's purchase of those shares for \$24 apiece, arguing that he is a socialist of value. Lederman reserved judgment, but Gardens shares climbed \$7 a share to close at \$43, governed by expectations of a possible bidding war.

JAPANESE PULL BACK

Japanese banks, insurance companies and other large institutional investors have reduced their Canadian bond, stock and loan holdings to \$46.6 billion from \$54 billion over the past year. As well, according to a study released by the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo, the Japanese are selling more than Canadian securities denominated in dollars to institutions denominated in yen to sidestep the impact of any further decline in the value of the Canadian dollar.

BAY STREET LAYOFFS

Burns Fry Ltd. and Norbord Thomson Inc. the two Bay Street brokerage firms with next month announced plans to merge, disclosed they have laid off 104 employees in preparation for the merger. Norbord chief executive Brian Stock said there will be more layoffs soon, but added that less than 200 people out of a total payroll of 3,700 will lose their jobs.

AIR CANADA PROFIT SOARS

A rebound in the travel industry and stringent cost-control measures are paying off for Air Canada. The airline reported profits of \$27 million, a low of \$24 million for the second quarter ended June 30, up from a \$14-million profit on \$265 million in revenues for the same period a year ago.

REVERSAL OF FORTUNE

Fortnite of Montreal, the briefest Canadian charter airline to collapse, left passengers miserably stranded in Paris. The failure of Fortnite—just six weeks after it obtained its charter airline license—has caused others in the airline industry to call upon the Montreal Transportation Agency to examine airline finances more carefully before licensing them. Fortnite had only one aircraft, a Boeing 747-200.

THE NEW BUSINESS



Wilson did not recently. "We have an excellent technological base through Bell Northern Research and a world-class telecommunications infrastructure through Bell, plus the money or access to the funds required. So the trick is to maximize these assets, making that our playing field has become virtually insurmountable. At this moment, we're determined to become much more focused on customer needs as well as an accountability—on those users of our equipment and services and to our shareholders in everything we do. So, we have the capital, the expertise and the customer position. If we can't capitalize on that, we're going to have to take a pretty hard look at ourselves. This is the beginning of the journey into a very different kind of company."

Northern Telecom—the world's fourth-largest telecommunications supplier—a global network moved profitably under Massey, who has achieved such a remarkable turnaround during his 15-month stay that his exit assignment should be to bring peace to Bosnia. But Bell itself is still in trouble. With its long-distance monopoly long gone, the company in its first quarter of 1994 didn't even meet the 11 percent return on equity allowed by the CRTC, even though competitive carriers have grabbed only \$200 million of the annual \$43-billion long-distance business in Ontario and Quebec. Wilson's appointment at McClelland, an executive who grew up in the competitive world of consulting, as Bell's president is significant because he's the first outsider to head the company. "Bell will find itself very well in the new competitive environment once the rules are clear," says Wilson. "The company's modernization has been substituting capital for labor. But that long ago Bell had 24,000 operators, now have 4,000. We're playing in the big leagues. AT&T, the antitrust, is far less than the size of CRTC. In other words, they make as much as a quarter as we do in a year."

Wilson's days are spent waving his Rey del Mundo cigars as he choreographs the giant conglomerate's return to fiscal health

compete broadly where CTV media like a blue-ribbon telephone loan. (It's been an executive with Labatt, MacMillan Bloedel, Bell's Industries and the Bank of Nova Scotia, as well as playing a major part in Ontario's so-called second-wave and spending four years as a deputy minister to the Ontario government.)

Wilson's days are currently spent at the top of his CRTC holdings in Montreal or Toronto, waving his Rey del Mundo cigars as he choreographs the giant conglomerate's return to fiscal health. His initial task, apart from managing any disaffected employees and workers still heavily clinging to a stock in his company, is to re-cast his own image with the notion that they're working for a company that knows what it's doing. (CSC is the country's largest private-sector employer with 85,000 employees who work on an annual \$4 billion in.) In terms of internal morale, Wilson has got together a top-notch team of players that includes Jim Massey, who now runs Northern Telecom, John McLennan who is president of Bell and Dennis Smyke, Canada's former ambassador in Washington, who is rapidly changing an under-love to the company to the global information highway. "CSC is an industry that's exploding,"

What's most exciting about CSC are its future intentions to access borders selectively from southern through its partnership with Occidental. Wilson's appointment is a direct competition with the cable companies. It is also branching, as part of the Strategic group, the Beacon Initiative, an \$8.5-billion contribution to building Canada's information highway. "It will be as intensive," claims Wilson. "We're going to be looking at a lot of other opportunities and moving information and knowledge instead of bricks and paper."

At his annual meeting in Toronto last April, Wilson put a brave face on Bell's prospects, assuring shareholders there would be no more ventures into unproven activities. In the middle script was delivered, when a reporter asked him whether he would still be job on next becoming profitable in 1996, Wilson shot back that that's of course he would.

He didn't back down from that statement, but when he had made his prospects even clearer. "What was I supposed to say? No? Or, yes? I said a minute about it, but no," he said. "What I should have said was that my job is on the line every day."

And this.



Stocks placed in themselves manufacturing is a leading domestic growth sector

Poised for prosperity

Despite an economic climate dulled by uncertainty over the outcome of the Quebec provincial election and the high level of federal government debt, the world's largest from the Conference Board of Canada is many. In its most recent review of domestic economic prospects, the board predicts that gross domestic product (GDP) will grow by an average of 3.3 per cent this year and 3.4 per cent next year. In 1993, the economy grew by only 2.7 per cent. Canada's unemployment rate is expected to remain around 13.6 per cent this year, falling to 10.5 per cent next year.

British Columbia's economy—boosted by migration, increased employment and

high labour prices—will be the strongest provincial performer, with expected GDP growth of 4.3 per cent this year. Across the country, one of the leading growth sectors will be manufacturing, much of which is based in Ontario and Quebec. That sector is being helped by lower labor costs, improved productivity and strong exports.

While growth will continue in the Prairies, it will not be as strong as in the past. In Alberta, in particular, provincial government budget cuts will curb growth in the health, education and welfare sectors. However, increased crude oil prices and increased natural gas exports should bump the province's GDP growth by 3.3 per cent in 1994 and 3.3 per cent in 1995.

Passing the torch

Even as the federal government seeks control of the affairs of Confederation Lake Insurance Co., Finance Minister Paul Martin appointed a new federal superintendent of financial institutions, John Palmer, 51, a senior partner in the Toronto office



Palmer new federal watchdog

of KPMG Peat Marwick Thorne, will succeed Michael Maclean in September. Maclean retired in June 30 after a seven-year term in the office. Suzanne Labarge, deputy superintendent, will continue to act as supervisor until Palmer assumes his new responsibilities.

The office of the superintendent oversees regulation governing all chartered banks. Internally incorporated bank and insurance companies as well as pension plans



Swimmer (left) and Landy, swimming

BY CHRIS WOOD

A few hours before the official start this week of the XX Commonwealth Games in Victoria, an unusual scene will be played out in the city's small, degraded harbor. At several mid-morning on Thursday Aug. 18, a slender canoe, its high prow painted in red and black, its crew garbed in wool slacks with bone and feathers, will slip into the protected waters. The vessel will be followed by more than 30 others. Six or 10 each will carry one or two people. The boats will be made of woven reed and cedar trees. Greeting the flotilla from a buoy, every point will be a small delegation of important people. The chief of the Salish Indians, in whose territory the point lies, will be one. But with him will be another man, a slight, balding fellow of 30, with his hair and the strange accessories and pale skin of a distant island. His Royal Highness Prince Edward, president of the Commonwealth Games and seventh in line to a throne whose power once brooded the globe, may or may not appreciate the views of the resident.

The occasion has as much to say about the changes that have swept the globe over the past two centuries as it does about the roots of the Commonwealth Games in the now vanished British Empire. The tribes on the Victoria waterfront this week has been witnessed before in 1782, at along the Pacific Northwest coast, the ancestors of these paddlers brought out their canoes to meet another pole man with strange accents, a captain in the service of Prince Edward's ancestor, King George III. That captain gave his name—Vancouver—to the island where the British Games are being held. But if the emperor that Vancouver helped to build has waned, the relationships it forged between some of the earth's wealthiest and most power-

VICTORIA WELCOMES

ful nations and some of its poorest and smallest ones have endured. And they are being celebrated this week, as athletes from any North Island (population 2,173) or the South Pacific greet competitors from great India (population 440 million), from Canada, the United Kingdom and the rest of the Commonwealth, on the level playing field of sports.

Past editions of the Games have produced transcendent moments. One of the most exciting took place 40 years ago this month in Vancouver, just at the 1954 Games. The sport was swimming at that point was faster than swimming, a bulky British doctor who elected to work that May when he ran a mile in 3:59.4, the first time anyone had done the distance in under four minutes. In Vancouver, his most dangerous opponent was an Australian swimmer, John Landy. In blurring heat on Aug. 7, Vancouver broke the tape 10 seconds ahead of Landy, but the clock showed that both men had reached it in under four minutes. Delirious sports writers called this dual accomplishment "The Miracle Mile."

For today's athletes, the competition may be stiffer at world championships in individual sports. But nothing better prepares them for the psychological onslaught of the Olympics than a chance to compete first at the Commonwealth Games. This is where the Alex Burnstones, the Mark McGyres and the byline Frischettes of future Olympic gold medalists first move. With multiple competition venues, a steady traffic in TV and international media, and a full program of splendid side-shows, the Games are among the very few that come close to rivaling the biggest show on earth.

The Games' very size—and diversity—may be the main point of the exercise. In the words of one organizer, they most exciting benefit is to bring together "people whose gross domestic product is \$200 a head and the richest nations on earth." That was plenty the idea when the Games were first proposed, in 1941, by a British person named Ashley Cooper, as a tribute to the unity that was between the nations of the Empire. "The realization of that idea waited until 1950 when a Canadian, Bobbie Robinson, organized the first British Empire Games in Liverpool. Except for a 12-year inter-cancellation during the Second World War, they have continued every four years since.

At these Games, South Africa, freed of apartheid, will be welcomed back into the fold after a 33-year absence. But this will be the last appearance for athletes from Hong

Kong—by the time the next Games are held, in 1998, that territory will have reverted to China. Still, the exclusive empire lives on, as Victoria it has found a contemporary reflection in the unprecedented participation of the physically disabled.

A subtle impulse underlies the highly festive sense of what constitutes a "host" at the Games. Unlike the Olympics, which recognize only teams from independent states, the Commonwealth Games draw a distinction between a "country," as in the United Kingdom, and "regions," as in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. There is no U.K. team competing; there are instead separate squads from each of its four constituent "regions." And to answer the obvious question for Canadians, three teams, indeed, to be pitted to prevent Quebec as well, if it shows, from competing under its own flag at future editions of the Games—while still remaining part of Canada.

The past is especially difficult to avoid in Victoria, named after all, for the Great White Queen herself. The landmark hotel that overlooks the harbor where the war games will compete is called the Empress. "Empire" are everywhere, applied to restaurants, subdivisions and the long, brown-back theater where the negotiating competition will be held. The official language of the Games—unambiguously, 502 million of distant homeland—is the Queen's English.

At the same time, the associations that began even before Capt. George Vancouver sailed up this rugged coast continue to bind Canada to its corners within the Commonwealth. It is neither accidental nor inconsequential that many of the immigrants to this country over the past two centuries have come from former British colonies: from Jamaica, India and Hong Kong ("Ultimately," argues Jacques Lesay, the Quebec-born director of the Institute that will open and close the XX Commonwealth Games, "we are all related.")

History does not really repeat itself. The same may resemble with others of the past, but this week's encounter between Edward and the Indian war canoes appears more strongly to a hope for the future. That national differences can be celebrated without losing sight of a common humanity. Whether other judgments can be passed on the legacy of empire, that is surely a worthy mission to relate the Games that are about to begin in a spirit of competition, without regret. □



Swimmer Curtis Myles (left), descends Michael Smith (below), enduring relations

History resonates in the Commonwealth Games—the sporting legacy of a once great empire

THE GAMES

DREAMS OF GLORY

Athletes from 51 countries begin the quest for gold in 10 official sports

Like many traditions, this one is a little bit hazy. Once every four years, the Queen sports an inspirational message into a specially handcrafted banner, which is then consigned to various capitals of her former Empire on its way to the host city of the Commonwealth Games. It is like the Olympic torch, without the flame. But like all good traditions, that one also serves to keep alive a

was deeply moved "Imagine" he scribbled to his family. "Something that was made in this house is touching the hand of one of the most powerful men in the world."

And the many traditions that contribute to create the former imperial outpost, such as meetings are at the emotional heart of what Games organizers have worked for six years to accomplish. Last week, they began putting their labors to the test, as the first of about



Australian cyclist a colorful TV audience of half-a-billion Commonwealth citizens

worship but tangible sentiment: the sense that every citizen of the Commonwealth is part of an extended, somewhat eccentric family, equally endowed—like it or not—with the ambiguous gift of a shared history.

A bit of that spirit came to Great Salish Indian actor Charles Elton one day in June, as he sat watching the evening news. Elton is one of three native artists whose first drama piece the Victoria Silver Jubilee created for the XV Commonwealth Games, which start this week in Victoria. When the news cast carried images of his handwork being presented to Nelson Mandela, the president of the new post-apartheid South Africa, Elton

3,500 athletes, coaches and team members from 51 countries (and 67 different national groups) began to arrive on Vancouver Island for a week and a half of sporting competition and cultural celebration. On Thursday, Aug. 18, Queen Elizabeth II will receive back her well-travelled banner as part of a two-hour sporting ceremony featuring a 3,200-meter climb and more than 2,000 combined performances. Over the next 30 days, competitors will run, swim, throw, wrestle, kick, box and spin their char wheels before a worldwide TV audience of as many as half-a-billion people.

Among those in pursuit of 952 medals in 30 official sports will be a smattering of interna-



Chalmers: a week and a half of sporting competition and cultural celebration

tional superstars, including English sprinter Linford Christie and South African long-distance runner Gertie Meyer, as well as such super-talented Canadian ice doublets Michael Smith, runners Bruce Surin and Angela Chalmers, and swimmers Madeline Lampert and Curtis Myden. Also vying for an appearance on the medal podium will be more than 100 athletes with physical disabilities, who will be included for the first time at a major international sports event as full members of their national teams.

Away from the tension and suspense at a dance competition venues, there will be other, more relaxed, entertainment for parents and spectators alike. Dozens of Canadian and international musicians will perform nightly during the Games, which are expected to attract an additional 50,000 tourists to the British Columbia capital—a city bedecked in banners, flower baskets and vibrant ribbons of royal red, white and blue. Parades, hand-drawn by Victoria's pocket hand-drawn line Harlow, will bring each evening's entertainment to a glowing close. Some of the most moving moments will

come from the region's Aboriginal inhabitants. Among the Coast Salish Nuxalk-Chinook and Kwakwaka'wakw First Nations, whose members were the first to settle the area, the decision to set aside long-standing grievances against white governments in order to welcome the Commonwealth to their traditional territories remains controversial. It led to an unprecedented measure of native participation in staging the Games, a role that will be reflected in the opening ceremonies. Assets creative director Jacques Lemay: "We will be using some cultural elements that will never before have been seen outside the long house."

There were other dramas hanging over the Victoria Games. With the first international teams already housed at the athletes' village at the University of Victoria campus last week, a week-long strike by 650 municipal employees against the city of Victoria halted garbage pickup and left some 80 managers struggling to keep down streets photo album duty. That provoked media interest and generated the two sides to accept breaking relations of their talk. Meanwhile,



Wagner: a new international reputation

international groups pressing claims as varied as white supremacy and land preservation hovered at the margins of the official schedule, leaving opportunities to transform the Games or the associated royal tour into a platform for their cause. Perhaps most distressing of all for more than 12,000 people who have mobilized, most of them without pay, to try to make the nation underlying a success, there were indications that many events might play to half-empty bleachers, the result of slow ticket sales.

Still, last week's additional hurdles struck the team most responsible for the Games' success or failure as almost anticlimactic. "We don't want to get too far," said George Heller, president of the Victoria Commonwealth Games Society, with a laugh, "but this is just one more night." The society's directors held the blunt-speaking former department store executive at December, 1991, when Victoria's bid to host the Games, won three years earlier, as the one of the 2000 Olympics, was looking increasingly shaky. Countdown about the Games' projected costs was escalating even while little debate planning had actually been done. Rumors swept Victoria that the London-based Commonwealth Games Federation was considering withdrawing the event from the B.C. capital. Heller promptly dropped

some of the original glitzy but impractical visions, including a waterborne stage in Victoria harbor, and worked to cut the Games' budget at \$80 million. With major contributions of \$62 million from Ottawa, \$44 million from the B.C. provincial government and \$48 million from corporate sponsors, Heller insists he will meet that target.

It has been no small feat. Even the best athletes in the Commonwealth lack the wide appeal among international fans that American sports fans that might translate into megadollar contracts for TV rights that Heller's troupe must all welcome, discount, ignore, fend, protect and entertain roughly the same number of athletes and visiting media as flooded into Calgary for the Winter Olympics in 1988. They must also provide playing sites that meet the demanding standards of international sports federations—all with a touch of the 51 billion that was lent to Albert's Games.

One consequence of that competition is a considerably more useful package of "legacies," as promoters of these large-scale public events describe facilities that will be

left behind after the crowds depart. In contrast to Calgary's extravagant endowment, which included the \$56-million Seasidehockey arena and a charmingly understated set of the jumps, the Victoria Commonwealth Games will have behind a more utilitarian endowment. The most imposing permanent facility built specifically for the games is a 5,533-seat arena and surrounding pool complex in Saanich, a community just north of downtown Victoria, where a busier water slide and snack palaces are intended to add to its appeal as a recreation center after competition ends. After briefly serving as an athletes' village, new apartment buildings on the campus of the University of Victoria at a cost of \$30 million will house 1,000 students. But the 20,000 temporary bleacher seats that have been added to the university's Centennial Stadium—in order to accommodate 33,000 spectators for athletes' competition and opening and closing ceremonies—will remain with the city of the Games' end.

Where it counts, however, organizers insist that the facilities will more than meet athletes' expectations. In addition to the year-old pool, a new aquatic wilderness swims track complex. The cyclists will compete within view of four new bike bombing grounds, the only competition site that is scheduled for use on every day of the Games. Other competitors will take place in temporary quarters, gymnastics in Victoria's

sprawled 5,000-seat Victoria Forum, world-famous acrobats in the wheelchair-bound 76-year-old Royal Theatre, basketball on a university gymnasium, and shooting at a department of national defense firing range, modified for online competition, southwest of the city.

Among those watching at least some of the action will be the Queens and Prince Philip, who are expected to arrive in Victoria this week. The royal couple and their youngest son, Prince Edward, who succeeded his father as president of the Commonwealth Games Federation in 1990, will be joined at the opening ceremonies by Prince Minister Jean Chretien and his wife, Alice. And watching the dogtrot will be a joint security force of five municipal police departments, augmented by the presence nearby of the Canadian army's Pacific Reserve Base at Esquimalt, no military roadblocks are on call in the event of terrorist attack. "We are never concerned," said the commanding officer of the security force, RCMP Sgt. Kelly Fink, "but the threat level is very, very low."

From tomorrow, perhaps. Still, there were enough lower rail-stations to fuel organizers' plans through the first few days before the curtain officially rises in the Games at midnight. A group of about 50 Commonwealth athletes refused to welcome their hosts to near the international media spotlight. "It's an audience," declared Scott LaMarie, a 37-year-old Canadian who was among a group competing at an Olympic medalist level, against Victoria. According to LaMarie, the group planned to conduct "street theater" during the Games to dramatize an opposition to logging in Clayoquot Sound on Vancouver Island's west coast.

Games organizers seemed more concerned about legitimate media reports of slow ticket sales. Officials said they never expected to fill every seat for many of the qualifying events, especially in sports with limited North American followings, such as lawn bowling and basketball. But they believed that demand was high for many more popular events—especially aquatic and athletic finals and the opening and closing ceremonies, despite ticket prices that ranged as high as \$125. With more than 30 per cent of anticipated ticket revenues of \$7.2 million



Cost Salish youth active participation

Splashy sideshows

A deck begins to settle, the yachts, a suspension and leaves that glide across Victoria's performance center Harbor quickly take the afternoon. Then, the focus of the port shifts abruptly as the 2,600 white lights that outline the B.C. Parliament buildings are switched on, casting a fiery-sunlike glow on the shimmering water. For 10 nights, these lights will provide a glowing backdrop to the most talked-about of the Commonwealth Games: the Harbor Festival, a free outdoor concert series featuring more than 400 artists from 17 Commonwealth countries. Throughout the Games, an eclectic mix of cultural events will dance around the edges of the athletic competitions. The Harbor Festival will be a high point, featuring such Canadian acts as the Barenaked Ladies, Michael Wright and the Great Teal Dundermen as well as such international stars as Bobbie's Andy Paterson and South Africa's beloved rhythm band, the Mahotella Queens. And a host of other special events—as well as Victoria's annual classic—are sure to draw Games' spectators away from the Mainstream. A sampling of things to do around Victoria:

• **Under the larger Harbor tent, visitors will find the Official Pin Trading Centre and the Arts of the Avian exhibition, showcasing local avian artists and live animal sculptures.**

• **At Ship Point, Inner Harbor, visitors can join in activities or check out children's entertainment, crafts and face-painting.**

• **In the harbor itself, the Drayton Road Festival on Aug. 23 will feature a dragage dance parade, boat-tossing ceremony and independent races. The Lloydminster Railroad Society will host a barbecue on Aug. 20.**

• **The Fun Way of the Seagulls, held Aug. 24 to 25, features traditional active dancing and activities.**

• **Waters and jugglers provide street entertainment throughout the Inner Harbour area.**

At this year's Commonwealth Games some people may have a different idea of going for the gold.



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Splashy sideshows

► The University of Victoria hosts exhibitions on the arts and crafts of British Columbia and the police of the nation of Borneo.

► A premier exhibit at Artus art, the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria contains the only Shishu shishu exhibits Japan. It will last several visiting exhibitions during the Games, including Chinese Ceramic Treasures, showcasing 270 pieces dating from 2500 BC to 1930 AD, and Art from the Coast, featuring Salish, Nuu-Chah-nulth and Kwakwaka'wakw masks, carvings and jewelry.

► Beyond the carved cedar doors of the Royal British Columbia Museum, First Nations storytellers and dancers perform in a Salish pit house; others carve native totem poles in adjoining Thunderbird Park, which contains one of the finest collections of totem totems in existence. Also on display is the Commeworth Cape of Many Winds—a quilt stitched by more than 250 volunteers that will be presented in Ruston Lampert, Malvern, the host of the next Commonwealth Games. At the museum's Newcombe Theatre, CBC Radio Canada will present Double Exposure on Aug. 23 and 24 and the Royal Canadian Air Force on Aug. 25 and 26.

► At Underhill Gardens, in an Inuvialut underwater house, visitors below sea level look directly into the lower Kluane. Scuba divers with communications equipment guide visitors through the labyrinth tunnels and the scuba who live on the ocean floor, providing a bonus for scubaists and swimmers, snorkelers and other marine life.

► For a proper British afternoon, visitors can tour the city in a double-decker bus, riding back at the river-covered Inuvialut Express Hotel (located for Queen Victoria, The Empress of India) in time for high tea.

► Two hand-carved totem poles guard the gateway into Clifton—Canada's oldest—and some of the best city life in the city of the Pacific. For the history, the only outdoor museum showcasing traditional life of three aboriginal nations, one sports galleries and shops along its narrow out-of-the-way path.

► For the adventurous visitor, power and sail boats are available to visit a shipwrecked or shipwrecked—by fishing charters, whale-watching expeditions and dinner cruises. Although August is not the best whale-watching month, humpbacks, dolphins and sea lions are common.

already in the hall, declared Heller, "we're ready to rock and roll."

In fact, it will be a slower beat that sets the tempo on the morning of the Games' opening. A fiftieth of British war canoes will enter the Queen's basin—which spent last week travelling by sea from the northern tip of Vancouver Island—to Victoria harbor on Aug. 28. It will come ashore at the foot of a 180-foot tower pole—the tallest ever carved, erected specially for the occasion. Some time after 4 p.m. that day, the basin will be carried

across the city, as Auckland in 1990. Then, on Aug. 28, Vancouver Mayor Peor Gordon, a supple former gymnast who is ranked fourth in the world in his sport, takes aim at the gold from both the three-meter and the 10-m-high springboard.

If the names of other events strike some Canadians as quirky, this is not entirely the fault of the Victoria organizers. In addition to centric mandatory athletics and aquatic events, Commonwealth Games rules permit host cities to choose eight additional sports from a list of 15 approved disciplines. During the planning for the Victoria Games, however, other Commonwealth countries made plain their preferences: they strongly discourage aged organizers from choosing sports requiring expensive equipment, such as yachting and rowing, and urged them to include others with lower followings outside Canada. Among the latter was lawn bowling: the sport is a top attraction in Australia, New Zealand and Britain despite its generic image in this country. The decision to omit rowing, however, left Canada's top-ranked oarsmen and women, who train near the B.C. capital and who swept up five medals at the Barcelona Olympics, high and dry.

Even so, for many athletes the chance to perform before a massive TV audience will represent a high goal that few may transcend in their athletic careers. Among the most elite competitors, a Commonwealth medal may rank behind those from the Olympics or a world championship in prize. But according to former athletes who have competed in both, the self-styled "Friendly Games" hold a charm that eludes the cutthroat atmosphere of the Olympics. "It's more of a fun competition," says former Olympic and Commonwealth synchronized swimming gold medalist Caroline Waldo, now an Okanagan sportscaster. For many young competitors, Waldo added, the multiple events and missed medals at the Commonwealth Games also provide a useful first exposure to competition situations that are seldom present at national championships in single sports. For one thing, she recalled, "you have different scenes in a sport like ours, that was a disadvantage: all those gorgeous guys walking by in skimpys bathing suits."

For a few adults, however, the Victoria Games represent an especially welcome recognition of their accomplishments. For the first time at any such large, multinational sports event, athletes with disabilities will compete in three sports: aquatics, wheelchair racing and lawn bowling. "We're happy it will open up to a lot of eyes," said Canadian Paralympic swimmer Tracy Mann, of Nanaimo, B.C., who competes with a sighted partner. "This isn't the Dark Ages any more." The Maiga-

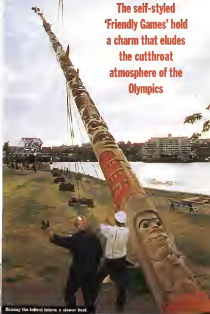
ton of the disabled will not be complete in Victoria, they will receive medals with a slightly different design from those awarded in other events. Even so, said Rick Hansen, the Vancouver-based activist for the rights of the disabled, who toured the world in his wheelchair in the 1980s, the prospect being set in Victoria "puts the Commonwealth Games far ahead of the Olympics or any other international games." Added Hansen: "This is a model for others to follow."

The Games have already inspired many of those who volunteered to help mount the event, finding with the opportunity to share in a unique experience. Some will also go away with valuable new skills. "Not only have I helped them, but they have helped me," remarked Marty DeBohe, 58, a retired stonekeeper who turned to use computers after he began doing volunteer office work for the Games a year ago. Because of his involvement, 17-year-old Brian Cassell, who will help to load one of 2,000 props used in the opening ceremony, has changed his views of the Commonwealth. "I thought it was just a bunch of countries sitting. Hey, we need to be part of the British Empire." Now, added the Grade 12 student, "I think it's more of a lifestyle."

Natives from several Vancouver Island First Nations, who located criticism from within their own communities in order to play a role in the Games, express strikingly similar sentiments. "We want the world to know there are still aboriginal people here," asserted Teen Simpson, chairman of the



Canadian swimmer Shela Waddell leads.



Raising the tallest totem, a slower boat.

General native participation considers it as difficult as in creating the Queen's basin and as performers in the opening ceremonies, native artists contributed several among totem poles in Games' sites. A traditional potlatch, scheduled to coincide with the Games, is expected to attract representatives from more than a dozen native groups to Coast Salish territory that week. More memorable for competitors perhaps, the medals awarded for the Games also bear designs drawn on traditional coastal Indian mythology. Native artist Elliot, who also designed the Games' gold medal, cherishes a private hope for his handwork. Reflecting on

**The self-styled
'Friendly Games' hold
a charm that eludes
the cutthroat
atmosphere of the
Olympics**

the silver basin's brief contact with Mendel, long imprisoned for during to dream of freedom for South Africa's blacks, Elliot said, "I hoped that some of the power of that man would rub off, and mean to the native people of North America."

The temple that gave the Commonwealth its birth is a fledgling movement. But amid an increasingly fractious present, the Games that are its latest contest is provide a spirit that burns where every member of this diverse family of nations is welcome. That may be history. But it's the present.

CHRIS WOOD in Victoria

THE STARS TO WATCH

Victory in Victoria brings Commonwealth bragging rights—and valuable experience



Downs. Bailey of Canada's best figure skaters, was left off the 100-m team because a crack of the hip kept him from competing in the qualifying round.) Chinese skaters were expected to be a formidable force, but they won his third European championship recently with a total of 10.11—well within Scott's range. Aside from the sports, Canada has potential track medalists in Graham Reid from Burlington, Ont., and Kevin Sullivan of Bramford, Ont., in the 1,500 m. Governor Pelt from Vancouver is the state-champion and middle-distance star Chalmers, who claims to compete only in the 5,000-m event this time. As well, Commonwealth champion Michael Smith from Kelowna, Ont., is back to defend his title in the heaviest discipline. Gold medal favorites among the women include Victoria hurdler Colin Jackson and a mix of Kenyan distance runners, including Beth Charlton in the 10,000 m and Paul Hackett in 5,000 m.

Basketball (Maitland Gymnasium, vint). A home-team victory on the court would be an upset, although in men's doubles, Ottawa residents Mike Dumas and Bryan Blomfield could shake up reigning Olympic bronze medalists John and David Seals of Malaysia. Olympic Jokers of Calgary leads the Canadian women's team.

Boxing (Victor Browning Sports Centre, Courtenay). As scheduled in 1990, Canada won the bronze (161 with one gold, five silver and two bronze medals. Looking for nothing less, the current team is led by Calgary's Dale Brown (light division), a winner of 202 bouts, and Junior Pugachov (137 1/2 kg) of St. Catharines, Ont., an Olympian in 1980 who is making a come-back. Canadian fans will anticipate strong challenges from Nigeria, Zambia, Taiwan, Korea, Northern Ireland and Australia.

Cycling (Olympic Centre at Juan de Fuca Recreation Centre, Colwood). Most races are 30-75 km. Several Victoria Oak Bay clubs, or an 85 km event on the Paterson Bay Highway. Canada is well stocked with capable road racers, from Adam Sydor of North Vancouver and Chris Thomas of Hamilton, to Greg Fraser of Nepean, Ont., and Jacques Lenoir

For many of the nearly 300 Canadian athletes taking part, the Commonwealth Games are the most important competition of the year. More experience, victory in Victoria brings Commonwealth bragging rights. Beyond that, the Games are an important stepping stone to the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, giving younger athletes a taste of top-level international competition and exciting coaches to assess their talent before the start of next year's Olympic qualifying events. "Everything we're doing is ultimately focused on getting us ready for the Olympic qualifying meet in Seoul, Japan, next year," says Bill Hoadstead, director general of the Canadian Gymnastics Federation. "Because of that, these Games are an extremely important part of our high performance program."

Aside from the competitive importance, Canada's athletes view the Commonwealth Games as a rare opportunity to perform before a large home audience. Many of the sports contested in Victoria have low profiles in Canada except during the Olympics and others, such as lawn bowling, have almost no



profile at all. But that should change over the next two weeks. CBC has planned more than 90 hours of television coverage. From 40. Mobile distance runner Angela Chalmers, a 30-year-old Victoria resident, knows that joy at Commonwealth gold, having won both the 1,500-m and 3,000-m titles in Auckland in 1994. But winning at home, she says, would be so much sweeter. "Having the Commonwealth Games here in Victoria has been a real motivator for me to keep training," said Chalmers, bronze medalist in the 3,000 m at the 1992 Summer

Olympics. "Being able to compete in a big meet at home—that's something that has never happened before in my career." Have any sense of the top Canadian and international stars to watch over the 15 days of competition? **Athletics** (Gastown Stadium, University of Victoria). Canada's best bet is dual Olympic champion, Ian Millar, in the 100-m sprint. In the 100-m sprint is Mervyn Bruce Lewis, who has been rising as a speedster in hopes of being able to run in Victoria. Canada's foremost

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Super Natural British Columbia



A WORTHY RELIC

The Commonwealth remains a quiet but vital force

Wearing a white dress, Queen Elizabeth II cut a pale figure amid the joyful colors of African fashion swelling across the beamed eaves of London's Marlborough House one afternoon last month. She had made the pilgrimage to the home of the Commonwealth Secretariat for a short ceremony and a cocktail party welcoming South Africa back into the Commonwealth after a 33-year hiatus. Well-known for her devotion to the Commonwealth, the Queen had to be pleased with the occasion. Earlier, in one of her first acts of international diplomacy, South African President Nelson Mandela had reached out to reject a family of nations that is often dismissed as a colonial hangover. But in eloquent remarks to the assembled guests, South Africa's deputy president, Thabo Mbeki, thanked Commonwealth diplomats for their moral support during the struggle against apartheid. Now, said Mbeki, "South Africa looks forward to playing a leading role as the Commonwealth embraces our new ventures and meets new challenges."

But what to do? The Commonwealth has welcomed the collapse of apartheid with plenty of self-congratulation, but is also reflecting great unease at what comes next. For two decades, the biannual forum of Commonwealth summits had been little more than a debating society on South Africa and, with that issue now off the table, the 54 governments that make up the organization are seeking a new role. The last time that Commonwealth leaders gathered, in Cyprus in October, 2003, the meeting adjourned angrily after Secretary General Chifeso Anyanwa tried to recall Commonwealth members to attack troops for international humanitarianism and this emboldened Big New Idea ran up against empty pockets. Stripped for cash, the member governments made it clear that they have no desire to establish a parallel United Nations. They told Anyanwa to leave alone his ineffectual skin-deep bureaucracy of the secretariat.

In fact, the Commonwealth's future appears almost certain to be modest. For one thing, some members are not strong examples of peace and good government: Sri Lanka has suffered from decades of ethnic strife, for example, and Anyanwa's native Nigeria is ruled by the autocracy. Meanwhile, the quieter, productive work of the Commonwealth goes on: transferring technology from rich nations to poor; providing vaccines to ensure low epidemics; acting as a catalyst for performance and businesses; South leaders and academics to mingle; and, of course, staging the Commonwealth Games, which get more ink and TV time than all of its other activities combined.

Even the South Africans, for all their enthusiasm, see limited uses for the Commonwealth. "We want to play a meaningful regional role in the Commonwealth, but we haven't been able to jump into places like Rwanda, Bosnia and all," says Bruce Kasefel, a spokesman in South Africa's London High Commission. "We look to the

ESSAY BY BRUCE WALLACE IN LONDON

Commonwealth on cultural and developmental issues. Political issues are too divisive and tend to split people all over the place." The British, perhaps tired of lectures from other Commonwealth states over their reluctance to impose sanctions on South Africa during the 1980s, remain guarded. "The limited aspirations have been its strength," said Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd in a speech on the Commonwealth's future last fall. "We will get the most from the organization by working with the nonaligned/multilateral group of its character rather than trying to turn it into a different type of covenant."

But are modest goals enough to ensure the organization's survival at a time when governments are scrambling to join regional trading blocs? "The Commonwealth is only as good as the effort that people put into it," says Britain's Richard Hoare, who has worked for various Commonwealth bodies since the early 1980s. "And right now, countries like Canada seem to be less interested. What's been lacking is a core group of people members who care about the Commonwealth, and who bring their imagination to bear on it."

Hoare is showing those eager for the Commonwealth to forcefully reassert the 1971 statement of principles: a commitment to human rights, democratic ideals and economic development. The leaders paid lip service to those concepts at their forum named in 1991, but the words will be surely tested now at West Africa, where democracy is under fire in three of the four Commonwealth countries, including Ghana and Nigeria. There have been some calls to suspend Nigeria from the Commonwealth because its military rulers have imprisoned Chief Moshood Abacha, a businessman who won last year's aborted presidential elections. And the youthful brigade who just toppled the Gambian government in July recently rejected personal appeals from Anyanwa to surrender power. A political failure in West Africa would squander much of the moral capital the Commonwealth accumulated during the years of battling apartheid.

For its defenders, that would be unfortunate. In many ways, the Commonwealth is valuable for more than simple statistics. It remains a unique club of nations, a legacy of cultures, religions and more united by history and the English language. Rather than dying, the non-hierarchical Commonwealth is alive and well: consider the expanding body of literature from writers out of Britain's former colonies, such as India's Vikram Seth and Nigeria's Ben Okri, who are using and modifying the English language to tell their stories and describe their worldviews. If the world really is growing ever less trusting of other cultures, a network that offers a choice to reach beyond tribal boundaries or regional power blocs is needed once again. It is generous because it makes such little sense, because it defies modern logic, that the Commonwealth is worth saving. □



Nelson Mandela greets the Queen on her arrival last week in Harare, Zanzibar.

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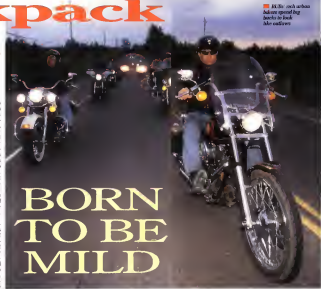
A monthly report on personal health, life and leisure

Bob Miller and half a dozen friends, all prosperous businessmen in their 40s-60s, are sitting in Miller's 30-seat air-conditioned motor home on a Saturday afternoon—a task distance from the museum's serene statue on the steps of the Peoria Falls. Out. More than 2,700 motorcycle clubs have ridden into the big resort town, 130 km northeast of Toronto, for a weekend charity event. With bikers outnumbering local residents by more than 2:1, the large grounds have become a giant campground, and the gathering could pass for a 16th-century Aztec celebration. It is not the type of crowd that usually attracts people like Miller and his friends—wealthy Toronto businessmen who own, among other things, golf courses, an advertising agency and a home-security company. But they also own gleaming new Harley-Davidsons, which are parked outside Miller's motor home. Within the motor club intimacy, refers like Miller are known as BSBs—rich urban bikers. "Five years ago, I wouldn't have thought of owning a Harley," says Miller. "Now, all kinds of guys are riding them. Doctors, lawyers, factory workers, and, hey, there's still some scary guys on these things."

For several decades, beginning in the late 1940s, Harley-Davidson and several other big bikes including Norton and Triumph, were known primarily as the motorcycles of choice of the scary guys—outlaw bikers like the Hell's Angels. But over the next few years, North American sales of bikes with engines exceeding 750 c.c. have soared, partly due to the purchasing power of the BSBs—whose ranks include middle-aged businessmen, comic stars, professional athletes and pop musicians. Sales this year are expected to surpass 180,000 units, up almost 20 per cent since 1991. Some of these buyers are captivated by the big bike's leather image as a machine for rebels, cowboys and live agents. Others are hoping to relive their own youthful experience on motorcycles, now that they have made their families and paid for their houses. Still others say they got a woman-to-be into such bikes, motorcycles that help them unwind, like riding into the woods. "It's a whole different world out on a bike," says Miller. "It's just another way."

The new popularity of big bikes is evident from the roster of prominent Canadians who ride them. Toronto Maple Leafs coach Pat Burns owns two, including one that he keeps at his summer home in Marquette, Que., and returns to his "Moggy bar hopper." Last century Oscar Gwinther has a customized 1984 Gold Sport 1200, and recently bought a smaller 1980 model for his girlfriend. Singer Lili Fini Zanuck was also given 1982 bike that is designed to look like a motorcycle from the 1800s. Toronto businessman Colin Wilson, generalist of Rogers Cable Systems Ltd., and Vancouver's Peter Thomson, founder of Century 21, is a Canadian red-neck classic bike rider who motorcycles.

The leisure, and the already wealthy, have helped rehabilitate the image of a product once associated with bunks, sinners and red ink with machine and lawlessness. Hollywood brought the rebel motorcycle to the silver screen in the 1950 movie *The Wild One*.



BORN TO BE MILD

For those who can afford them, big bikes are the way to unwind

which featured Marlon Brando and was based on a rebellion later met that occurred in the small farming community of Hollister, Calif., on July 4, 1947. In 1959, the movie *Easy Rider*, starring Peter Fonda, Dennis Hopper and Jack Nicholson, depicted outcasts on a bike-riding trip through the 1950s. Toronto businessman Colin Wilson, generalist of Rogers Cable Systems Ltd., and Vancouver's Peter Thomson, founder of Century 21, is a Canadian red-neck classic bike rider who motorcycles.

The parking lot behind the municipal arena and recreation complex at Peoria Falls, a bedroom community east of Toronto, is packed

with hundreds of motorcycles on a summer Saturday morning. Toronto's bike is no exception in being the BSB. For BSBs, the annual charity ride to Peoria Falls, held to raise money for research into muscular atrophy, which causes mental vision and eventually blindness. There are machines of every description, off-road dirt bikes, sleek Japanese bikes, loaded with modern technology and capable of speeds as high as 300 km/h, and bulky touring motorcycles.

Over by the edge of the parking lot, Bob Miller and his friends have parked their motorcycles and a pack of Harleys. Their bikes all have 1,300-c.c. engines—almost as large as the engines in many small cars—and were priced at \$14,000 to \$26,000 at the showrooms. By comparison, similarly sized Japanese bikes, manufactured by Honda, Suzuki, Yamaha or Kawasaki, cost only about half as much as the Harleys, even though they are generally larger.

But rich bikers aren't looking for slow dirt spend and high-tech performance, two things for which the Japanese bikes are renowned. They also want bikes that are custom-made, some owners spend as much as \$22,000 on options and accessories. Brian Larter, 42, a broker who owns an advertising company and participated in the Peoria Falls charity ride with Miller's group, notes that almost every

element of a Harley-Davidson motorcycle, from the headlight and the gas tank to the seats, handlebars and more, can be changed or modified. "But I'm not going to tell you how much I spent on my Harley," Larter says with a chuckle, "because my wife might read this."

In fact, American-made bikes have become prohibitively expensive for many riders. One such disappointed enthusiast is Al Matthews, a 55-year-old self-employed musician from Ajax, just east of Peoria Falls. While Miller, Larter and their friends are getting ready to ride, Matthews is strolling over for a glance at their bikes with his girlfriend, Dianne Dickson. As a young man, he rode Japanese and German motorcycles, but he had dreamed of owning a Harley from the day an uncle took him for a ride on one when he was five years old. Finally, in 1991, he managed to buy one. Last winter, however, money problems forced him to sell.

"They're beautiful, just beautiful," Matthews says to Dickson. "It's either my heart or just looking at them. It took me 15 years to get one, and now it's all over."

"Yeah, but at least you got that, Al," she says. "That's the main thing."

After a two-hour ride through the greatly reduced countryside of central Ontario, the bike for night cowboys reaches Peoria Falls in the early afternoon. For Miller and his fellow BSBs, gathered in his motor home, it is time to relax and talk motorcycles. They joke about going through mid-life crises and had each other about being friends to society. Dave Wood, 44, who owns a golf course and an environmental company that treats an contaminated soil, gets a big laugh from everyone when he tells up the sleeve on his T-shirt is displaying a newly acquired tattoo on his right shoulder.

But from their conversation, it is apparent that beneath the leather jackets and black T-shirts there are heartbeating, successful businessmen who are captivated by their property. "I had dirt bikes when I was 16 or 18, but I always dreamed of owning a big bike," says Wood. "So I did. Once I have the dough and the time, why not enjoy what I want? I used to have a Corvette and a 35-hp sailboat that was like a Rolls-Royce on the water. But the bike's the greatest thing I've ever had."

Others discovered Miller as middle-aged men, and were hooked immediately. Bill MacWilliams, age 56, who runs two golf courses north of Toronto, purchased his first motorcycle last year. Eight months later, he bought his second, a limited edition model that resembles a 1966 yellow bike. MacWilliams asked \$6,000 worth of chrome pipes and parts, lowered the seat, changed the wheels and installed a wind shield. "When they opened a cupboard down the rear from my house, it was like a giant Toys 'R Us for adults," says MacWilliams. "I said, 'I have to have one.'"

For Larter, one of the pleasures of owning a motorcycle is the constant challenge. "When I like to get new things, I develop an obsession with a hobby, then I go out for a night," he says. "You talk about obsession, touring, damn like that." And out on the road, Harley riders also watch out for they consider their own—the unique sound of their engines. "It's a gratifying loud, throaty sound, very distinguishable from other bikes," says Larter. "You know, they can hear high-pitched sounds that humans can't hear, and they can hear it from a long distance, creating a powerful sound of their engines."

By early evening, the other weekend bikers, the ones who wear leather and denim, leather and studs, studded and bikerettes, are tramping up the rocks out on the large grounds. They build camp fires, drink beer and listen to the rock band playing at the foot tent. Bikers cruise slowly around, revving their engines and showing off their machines. They ride without headlights. Most have a beer in one hand, a cigarette dangling from their lips and a woman on the back. They look like rebels, not BSBs.

But most of Miller's friends are not around to participate in the revelry. By the end of the afternoon, they had left Peoria Falls for their homes at the northern suburbs of Toronto. MacWilliams has his girlfriend in his car. Larter has a Silverado pickup and is driving off with his wife. He has two teenagers back. The others had made home, having purchased their wives and children that they would be back before bedtime.

DAVID JENSEN in Peoria Falls

Backpack Calendar

High notes of summer include Operamania and a picklefest

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Aug. 25-Sept. 9 Fringe Theatre Festival, Victoria. Celebrating the city's Commonwealth Games, this year's edition of the annual festival includes visits from theatrical companies from Ghana, Guyana, Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe.

Sept. 9-Oct. 12 World Best Sculpture Competition, Harrison Hot Springs. An exhibition only tournament for professional artists is held each year in India, who will compete for the \$5,000 first prize. Royalists have allowed road sculptures up to eight feet high, covering plots as large as 600 square feet.

ALBERTA

Aug. 18-27 Desensitization, Edmonton. Indigenous peoples from Canada, Poland, New Zealand and other countries showcase their customs and traditions through film, art, music, dance and drama.

Sept. 3-4 The Great Canadian Sport Fix, Stony Plain. Radiovision trotted model appliances—recreators as great as eight feet—into a new bar action. The exhibition will include a recreation of Second World War battles with museum explosives.

SASKATCHEWAN

Aug. 26-Sept. 4 Canadian Senior Men's Subclub Championship Saskatoon. Senior teams from across the country compete for the national title.

Sept. 20-21 Throwing Her, Moose Jaw. Demonstrations of church sex, obscenity, show dancing and gay modelling, backlit by a parade of antique cars equipped.

MANITOBA

Aug. 26-28 Visions Indoor Radio and Wild West Dance. Three days of indoor, turn-taking competitions, ball and horseshoe tournaments and a demolition derby.

Sept. 19-21 International Pickle Fest, Brandon. Five years ago, after winners in Brandon decided to launch a festival honoring the country's kitchen. The symbol they chose was the pickle—now celebrated with live entertainment, children's games, craft shows and pickle patting. A highlight, pickle patting.

Festival time again

As summer is winding down, the film festival season in Canada is gearing up. It gets under way later this month with the 11th edition of Vancouver's World Film Festival, which runs from Aug. 25 to Sept. 3. Last year's most attended nearly 300,000 filmgoers, and sponsors are hoping that even more will see the 200 movies from 60 countries to be shown at 12 theatres. The roster includes *A Simple Plan* of Faye, starring Steve Martin, Gabriel Byrne, Catherine O'Hara and Jeremy Bobble, *Power*, *Caroline*, starring Patrick Cates, Kevin Kline, John Lithgow and Stephen Rea, and *To Live*



■ Martin is 200 movie poster



■ Fresh-week high jinks: conscious of what is appropriate

Welcome to campus life

"Orientation week" sounds so odd and awkward. But, after all, that time set aside for first-year university students to learn their way around campus, and maybe have a new city, before

classes begin in September. But as many a former freshman can attest, fresh week, as orientation week is more fondly called, can be far more divisive.

Now, however, many universities are trying to ensure that in-

1989. Still, she says, it always deals with such issues as racism, homophobia, responsible decision-making and "coming with goals and dreams." The play is a hit in 12 schools, including the University of Waterloo in New Zealand, has bought the script to adapt for their students.

Aug. 18-21 Lexington Tomato Festival. The self-declared potato capital of Canada—and producer of much of the country's ketchup—celebrates with a parade, a picnic, a children's fair and a horse show.

Sept. 4-5 Monarchs and Migrants Weekend, Presque Isle Provincial Park, near Belleville. The park, a major gathering point for monarch butterflies on their annual migration to central Mexico, hosts demonstrations of monarch butterfly tagging and bird banding, morning bird hikes and evening flora and slide presentations.

QUEBEC

Sept. 2-15 International Accordion Festival, Montserrat. Virtuosi from across North America and as far away as Uruguay and Holland gather in this town 60 km east of Quebec City, home of accordion masters.

Sept. 24-25 94th Western Festival. The 27th annual version of what this town of 4,000 bills as "the prettiest western event in Eastern Canada." It features 10 days of professional rodeo competition for \$100,000 in prizes, acrobatic per-

forming students are not motivated by the older students. "We tell the students, 'If you don't like it, don't do it,'" says Paddy Bland, vice-president of students' services at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ont. Fresh week at Laurentian now includes charitable fund-raising events, and all new students must also take a writing competency test.

To help newcomers make the transition from home to campus, students at the University of Waterloo in southern Ontario perform in a play called *Struggle & Stray*. Dennis Angew, assistant supervisor of health and safety at the university, says the show has been revised ten and updated each year since its first performance in 1981. The play is a hit in 12 schools, including the University of Waterloo in New Zealand, has bought the script to adapt for their students.

ty and modern music, a drish base pulling content and a parade of horse-drawn floats.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Sept. 3 Provincial Town Council Competition, Ridge Landing. Town Council members of local settlements. New Brunswick's top town enters try to outdo the reigning champion at the renowned Atlantic Village.

Sept. 3-11 Atlantic Billions Festival, Seaside. As many as 20,000 solid balloons take passengers aloft twice daily.

NOVA SCOTIA

Aug. 21 Feast of St. Louis, Lunenburg. The 220-year-old festival on Cape Breton Island celebrates the saint's day with music, dance, costume parades, a parade and a recreation of an 18th-century fireworks display.

Aug. 26-27 Halifax Flower Show. More than 30 amateur gardeners show off their flowers and vegetables.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
Aug. 26-28 Festival of the Fathers, Charlottetown. The capital celebrates the 120th anniversary of the Charlottetown Conference of 1866 with "Vintage Victoria events," including dog races, a croquet tournament and a 14-kilometre run.

Sept. 2-21 Festival of the Arts, Charlottetown. Theatrical music, craft demonstrations and visual arts displays lead up to a gala concert performance in Charlottetown on Sept. 10.

NEWFOUNDLAND

Sept. 3 Oak Festival Day, St. Mary's Harbour. A day of rowing races, craft competitions, tent dances and feasting on crab.

Sept. 10 Seventh Annual Remembrance Day, St. John's. Prizes go to the best 18 flowers of remembrance: 4,000 rubber ducks rising 1.5 feet above the top prize this year is a weekend in Toronto.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Aug. 26-28 Denwood Days, Fort Resolution. Traditional games and activities of the Denne and Metis of the area, including modern skating and, for those with more modern tastes, slow-pitch softball. Visitors welcome.

YUKON

Sept. 9-10 Klondike Trail of '98 International Road Race, Whitehorse. Almost 100 teams of six to 10 runners each follow the original 1898 gold-rush trail from Skagway, Alaska, to Whitehorse.

NEXT

A sampling of upcoming diversions

MOVIES

Natural Born Killers Woody Herman and Juliette Lewis parody mass murderers in Oliver Stone's attack on the American film with violence.

A Simple Plan of Faye Steve Martin, who scripted the drama, plays an idiosyncratic father fighting to maintain custody of his daughter.

A Good Man in Africa An adaptation of William Boyd's novel about a diplomat in Africa, played by Sean Connery.

Quiz Show Robert Redford directs John Turturro in a drama about the 1959 quiz-show scandals.

Phantom Caravan An exotic woman (Phoebe Cates) speaks through language barriers at a small English village in 1877.

VIDEO

Four Weddings and a Funeral The hit romantic comedy showcases British heartthrob Hugh Grant.

Seven Years in Tibet An exotic woman (Phoebe Cates) speaks through language barriers at a small English village in 1877.

The Snapper A raucous screw comedy based on Roddy Doyle's novel about a young, unmarried Dublin woman grappling with pregnancy.

The Crow A rock guitarist returns from the dead in this stylish thriller.

101 Dalmatians 101 More wonderfully silly shenanigans from Leslie Nielsen and company.

BOOKS

Open Secrets Alice Munro (McClelland & Stewart). A new collection of short stories from one of the world's best living writers.

This Year in Jerusalem Mordecai Richler (Knopf Canada). The controversial author, who once joined a Zionist youth group, examines the life of Israel as homeland.

Imperial Ryszard Kapuscinski (Knopf Canada). The famed Polish author chronicles the collapse of the Soviet empire after travelling to the former U.S.S.R. for two years.

Blood and Chrysantheums Nancy Under (Penguin). A sequel to *The Night Justice*, the Toronto author's surprise hit about a contemporary vampire couple.

101 All the Wonders of the World (Random House). A children's book to take Shakespeare's advice in his last will.

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AUDIO

I Love Everybody Lyle Lovett (A&M). More grating of the love from the man who gave his to Julia Roberts.

The Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Toronto (Virgin Classics). Religious works from Canada's first internationally recognized composer.

Ellie Fitzgerald, *The War Years, 1941-1947* (MCA). A two-CD set commemorating the period when Fitzgerald was the leading jazz vocalist.

Michael Ondaatje, *The Englishman's Boy* (MCA). The book of the novel set in the world of the novel.

Boyz n the City (MCA). A second release from the soulful Philadelphia quartet.



MUNRO

Backpack

A weighty response

Being the butt of fat jokes is no laughing matter. Those who are seriously overweight can suffer from peer self-image, social ostracism, job discrimination and serious health risks from diabetes to heart disease. But for some individuals, shedding several extra pounds can be a lifelong struggle. Studies show that 20 per cent of dieters who lose weight regain it the lost pounds—and usually more—within three to five years. That once caused some people, including even some health professionals, to conclude that the obese were weak-willed or selfish indulgers. Now, however, new advances of medical research are proving our minds to reduce the causes of, and potential treatments for, obesity. Some of the most exciting

discoveries focus on the role that chemical signals from the brain play in stimulating appetite in some overweight people. These messages do not correspond with the body's actual need for sustenance. "The appetite is an extremely complex system," says Dr. Franco Vaccaro, an associate professor of psychology and psychiatry at the University of Toronto. "But if we can regulate, or normalize, an individual's eating, then the weight will take care of itself."

Until recently, many medical schools did

not even teach nutrition and its role in promoting health. But mounting public concern over obesity and other eating disorders helped change that. "There is now a tremendous amount of research going on," says Harvey Mergelson, psychology professor at McMaster University in Hamilton. "It's a very exciting time."

Mergelson, in fact, is the chairman of one of two major international conferences being held in Canada this month that illustrate the wide range of research currently being conducted into the psychology and physiology of weight management. In Hamilton, from Aug. 20 to 28, members of the Society of Integrative Behavior will present papers on topics ranging from the role of politics and culture in determining what people eat to whether a group of hormones known as peptides can be used to treat obesity immediately afterwards in Toronto, delegates at the International Conference on Obesity will examine an equally wide range of topics.

One exciting new area of obesity research stems from the strides made over the past decade in understanding the brain's chemistry. While studying the role that a group of chemicals known as neurotransmitters—including serotonin, dopamine and norepinephrine—play in stimulating mood, scientists noticed an unexpected side-effect: some clinically depressed patients, taking the drugs to regulate the levels of neurotransmitters in their brain lost weight without even dieting.

The research into the role of neurotransmitters is also being closely watched by pharmaceutical companies, who have not in-

troduced a new anti-obesity drug in 20 years. Pharmaceutical researchers believe that the research eventually could lead to new diet pills that could help control weight with few unpleasant side-effects. (There are currently four amphetamine-like prescription drugs, marketed under six different brand names, currently available in Canada for weight control. But many doctors are reluctant to prescribe them because of

the adverse side-effects, which can range from dry mouth and sleep disturbances to raised blood pressure.) An even riskier diet pill could be worth billions of dollars because the market potential, after all, is vast: 25 per cent of Canadians and 30 per cent of Americans are considered obese, higher percentages than in the rest of the world. And health officials, who define obesity as being 30 per cent or more above ideal body weight—estimate that these percentages are continuing to escalate.

The race to produce a new diet pill is already on. Eli Lilly and Co. of Indiana, for one, is currently conducting clinical trials in Canada and the United States for a drug named Lorcet. It is a reformation of the chemical fluoxetine hydrochloride, now widely known as the popular antidepressant

Prozac. According to Canadian Baffin, vice president manager for Eli Lilly Canada Inc., in Scarborough, Ont., "Initial reports are not conclusive."

Still, the introduction of any new diet drug is bound to be highly controversial. Bentley says that if Health Canada were to approve Lorcet, it would only be available by prescription and would only be recommended for the "morbidly" obese—those whose weight is a threat to their health. Critics counter that Prozac was introduced in 1989 as an antidote to clinical depression, but since then it has been used to treat relatively minor personality disorders. If a new diet drug followed a similar course, it could end up in the hands of those who merely wanted to lose 10 lb. by losing out season. There are also concerns about the potential long-term effects of any new drug.

Health experts add that because people are obese for different reasons, and that there are different types of obesity, no one solution will work for everyone. And even in those overweight individuals whose brain chemistry is the problem, the neurotransmitter have an impact on so many different functions that it will be difficult to develop a pill that modifies eating alone. Says Vaccaro, "There is nobody to be a single bullet." But as research continues, there is hope that there will soon be a new, sophisticated array of weapons in the battle of the bulge.

BARBARA WICKENS



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Striking out



Malcom Aikie: 'We can turn, and we're ready, both mentally and financially'

According to the baseball calendar, there should be the dog days of August, when controversies are regarded as irrelevant, when athletes frolic or suffer under the heat of summer sun and pennant pressure. And according to the standings, this should be the season of the Montreal Expos. When the Major League Baseball Players Association launched the game's eighth week stoppage in 35 years last week, they shut down the most remarkable season in the history of Canada's Montreal league franchise. At 11-40, the team with one of the lowest payrolls in the big leagues had baseball's best record. But as they wrapped up their final series, against Pittsburgh and headed their flight back to Montreal, the players wondered if the team's maddening work had been for naught. "Our only hope now," said manager Felipe Alou, "is that each, more intelligent heads get involved in this."

Bartering a quick resolution, this latest disagreement between players and owners could well define the best Expos team ever of its destiny. But, oddly, the mood on the flight home from Pittsburgh was hoarse. "With all the crap that goes on around this team on a daily basis, like all those rumors about [star outfielder] Larry Walker being traded, stuff like that doesn't bother us," said infielder Mike Lansing. "When we get into the clubhouse, everything's blown out and the actual

game." Call it youthful optimism, but most Expos predicted that the season would reverse. And even if it did not, there was always one thing. "I don't think this is it for this group," said catcher Dennis Fischer, as Expos players' association representative. "I'm hoping something terrible doesn't happen and you lose the rest of the season. But I believe in our agreement, we'll adjust. We'll win it next year."

Historically, player owners disputes were fought over time and understandable issues. In 1972, the year of the first strike, the union was attacking the primary old reserve clause, a feudalistic tenet in each contract that tied a player to one team in perpetuity. Since then, however, the players have won an important number of concessions, beginning in 1976 with the right to free agency—the ability, after a certain amount of unrequited service, to sign with the highest bidder. All of which makes it difficult for fans to follow the reasoning behind a strike in 1994, when the average player makes \$5.5 million a year and the game boasts a palpable status of close pennant races and exceptional performances. (San Francisco's Matt Williams, for one, has 43 home runs and, before the strike, seemed poised to lead a team at Roger Maris's season record of 61.)

The breaking point is the owner's demand for a salary cap similar to those in basketball and football, that would limit the amount a team's players could be paid to 50 per cent of total revenue (the players earned 50 per cent last year). The owners would also like to share profits from the sale of base ball cards—profits that have traditionally gone to the players and that enabled the union to build its \$200-million strike fund. The owners say they need these concessions because players' salaries have more than doubled in the past five years, while TV revenue fell by 50 per cent in the last year. They claim that nearly half the 26 teams lose money, but refuse to share the players' financial books. The owners also claim that, without the salary cap and revenue-sharing between rich and poor teams, small-market teams cannot compete fairly with such clubs as the New York Yankees and Los Angeles Dodgers.

But the players, with the backing of at least one major owner, the Yankees' George Steinbrenner, dispute that claim, and they point to the high-flying, low-budget Expos as proof. They also note that there have been 23 different division champions in the past 15 years. "We see a free market system that has worked well, and we want it to continue," said Fletcher. "They want revenue-sharing and want to manipulate our salaries within that system. Ideologically, we're on different planes."

The players do not like the way the bad guys are being out, but they also know that, in every previous work stoppage, the owners have capitulated. No player has ever crossed the players' association picket line. "That's why we always win these things," said Minnie Aikie, whose 334 batting average at strike time topped Tim Lincecum's club record of .334, set in the 1986 season. "Other players have made sacrifices in the past. Now, it's our turn, and we're ready, both mentally and financially."

The Expos' organization itself may not be as prepared. Club president Claude Brodeur, who called the strike "deplorable," estimated that shutting down the 1994 season could cost the club-stripped team as much as \$18 million. "The timing, for us, couldn't be worse," he said. As for the players, there was some concern that because of their relative youth—the Expos have one of the youngest rosters in the majors—they may have trouble maintaining their focus during the strike. At a team meeting before the last game on Aug. 11, manager Alou told the players that they had to take responsibility for being the No. 1 team in baseball, recalled Fletcher. Added the catcher: "All of us, but especially the young guys, need to pay attention to our conditioning. We need to work hard so that, if we do come back, we can pick up where we left off."

JEFF BLAIR in Montreal



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Local boys and foreign flags

BY DON LEVIN

There were the Greeks, begging for help at midnight, players who had competed and won with passion and who now saluted the crowd that had cheered them on with equal passion, that continued to chant, "Helios, Helios" and wave their blue-and-white flags. Feet stamped. Whistles blew. It was a lovely scene, unless of course the onlooker was a fan of the losing side, which happened to be Canada and anyone that has got to watching any Canadian team there in seventy Maple Leaf Games has already left like strangers in a strange land.

And wonder they did. "It's tough for Canadian fans playing in their home country to get bored in their home court," said Ray Shellen, who coached the Canadian team in the World Championship of Basketball some years in Toronto and Hamilton last week. "You there were a few hoos from the Greek supporters—a few. But then the real noise started. Don Cherry, the hockey commentator who comes nothing about basketball but suddenly gets personal against to Canada, told us the listeners that, while the older Greek-Canadians cheering their native land over Canada didn't bother him that much, the younger ones certainly did. "If you like it so much over there," boomed Cherry, "go back—take a 18 back to and take one with you." There were more measured voices as well: college radio shows to say that multiculturalism had not ended, while learned professors weighed in on the dangers of excessive flag-waving at any time. In fact, in the midst of an Olympic summer, when troops leave for basketball, judo, and an education for the unemployed, there were any number of people who seemed to beg that their sports are supposed to be fun, that nothing is as silly as the heat, the love and rejection, and that loyalty—especially in athletes—is a negative term.

First of all, yes, the divided Canadian crowd was as divided as anything in the Canadian team in crashing losses to Greece and Croatia, whose local fans also turned out in force. In



Greek fans in Toronto: divided loyalties

the Greece game, on Aug. 8, there were more than 21,000 spectators in all, and the majority came from Toronto's large Greek community, and they included the home-made fans. It was all very Canadian—Mr. Hellenism! Moment. And it wasn't easy on the Greek Canadians, either. "I'm not celebrating," said Stenos Leptakoulis, watching the delirious fans from outside. "This is your second home, you can't celebrate the way you would if you lost Germany. The feelings are too mixed." Leptakoulis, 38, who emceed a decade ago and now works for a Greek weekly newspaper in Toronto, and his advice to the community had been to "take our Canadian flag, our Greek" (Stenos did). The truth was, he said, the pro-Greek crowd would have been much larger, but many people, ambivalent and even having a problem with pro-Canada love, stayed home.

Anybody still something else? "I was disappointed because I don't think a lot of Canadian fans came." Exactly. Why blame the

Greek faithful for supporting their side too well? Why not blame Canadian fans for not being more active in the crowd? True, it did, wasn't hockey, it was basketball and it 1994—the year before the Toronto Raptors and Vancouver Grizzlies take to the hardwood—Canadian fans are more active than in the past. In the case of a bunch of ball stars in short pants, maybe fans are more active or not.

And who is blame for anyway? For, the biggest name on the Canadian team, agent has first two years in Canada and back to—he was raised in the Bahamas, educated in Indiana and North Carolina and now plays professionally in Boston. And suddenly Canadians are supposed to cheer him wildly? Greek Canadians? No one doubts him when he says that it meant a lot to him to play for Canada, but that's not the point. Shilling loyalties are a lot of international sport, a world where passports or a power's birthplace can transform one country's citizen into another's star. Think of the Winter Olympics, all these Italian and French and German hockey players who grew up skating on ponds in Quebec and Saskatchewan. Does competing under a foreign flag make them inferior teammates? No, it just makes them not good enough to play for Canada but expert for an Olympic presence nonetheless.

And it's not just the international arena. Every fan of professional sports is an expert on the subject of changing loyalties. In Quebec City, where citizens were led by a non-nationalistic former over the Montreal Canadiens, not everyone was so quick back in 2009 to switch allegiance to the new home-town Nordiques, creating a divided crowd when the Habs came to town. And who hasn't had trouble making mental adjustments when players change teams? Last year, did true Blue Jays choose as their cheer for Mickey Hatcher, the bald outfielder who briefly masqueraded in blue before reverting to green and yellow that summer? Can CTV, which actually remembers which quarterback they're backing this week?

The point is fans are free to make their own choices, and neither place of residence nor even wide communities are going to change that. Sure, sport and nationalism can be an uneasy mix. And that's why Habs at the Berlin Olympics in 1936, the El Salvador footballers soccer war of 1989—the examples go on and on. But there was also the Croatian basketball team last week, playing proudly—and very well—under the flag of their newly independent nation. And there are those nationalist fans, those teams that transcend nationality. As the American Dream Toronto cheered the Go down last week, and Serbian citizens and basketball players shouting "Slavi Radoje!" it was clear that the basketball's boundaries were only loosely defined. American, only nationality-based players play on rock stars, and they belong to a different world.

So to all these ridiculous head wringers, lighten up. Canada hosted the globe's top basketballers and fans went just fine. The players played. The fans cheered. A good time was had by most.

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Between a magnificent fjord and a golfing paradise?

At the edge of a bay, where ought you be?

Right on a ridge, where you can see forever?

A stone's throw from a spectacular beach?

Backed away to a quiet residential street?

Close to the shore, and a spectacular sunset?

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MUSIC



The Ladies: weightier lyrics and a sense of fun

No more class clowns

It's a real-down, earthy scene in Toronto's west end, a film production company has spent the day trying to create a wet look for June, the latest video by the Barenaked Ladies. A quiet scene provides a close backdrop, and a machine spraying out clouds of smoke creates a misty underwater effect. Several large reflectors surround the scene, and a spotlight shines down on the water's surface. Suddenly, a sudden downpour outside is making every-

thing inside wetter than placed rain, a pouring through holes in the building's roof. Looking down, the members are quickly over-estimated. Still, the Barenaked Ladies, and each of the five band members takes his turn being shot in the aquatic setting. "It's raining the water to the song," a video ballad that has been long shot in the aquatic setting. "It's raining the water to the song," a video ballad that has been long shot in the aquatic setting.

Barenaked Ladies get dressed for American success

all songs, including Everything Old is New Again, are melodic and catchy. Now, with a 23-date U.S. tour beginning on Sept. 22 in Canadian tour follows, the Barenaked Ladies have their sights set on the American market, where success has so far eluded them.

One launch in the war-torn arena of the video about a taking place, four members of the band—Papa, 34, guitarist Ed Robertson, 22, drummer Tyler Stewart, 20, and bassist Jim Creeggan, 24, Quasi's brother Andrew Creeggan, 23, join's brother, as well as the set—discuss their new-found challenges. Although there is plenty of humor, the discussion turns serious at the mention of a recent *Rolling Stone* article in which a Toronto record retailer called the Ladies a "nicely act" and "Barely for teenagers." Says Page sagely: "The guy used an adjective with an intentional public law, maybe I should drive (Stewart, 20), the band is badly making out more

Clearly, with Maple You Should Drive the group hopes to prove itself more than a flash in the pan. Yet Page is quick to deny that there is any conscious plan at work. "None of us sit down and said, 'Time to make a serious record,'" he insists. Adds Stewart: "We're older now and so is our audience." Robertson notes that, since the runaway success of *Goodbye to the Music*, their lives have changed. Both he and Page have married and bought houses. Stewart has acquired a new car and a cottage. The Creeggan brothers, meanwhile, have acquired a succession of instruments, including a grand piano. "We're far from wealthy," says Robertson. "But we're doing fine."

Products of Scarborough, a Toronto suburb, Robertson and Page formed the Barenaked Ladies in 1988, after they both worked as construction at a summer music camp on Georgian Bay. The two went on to write folk songs about their shopping mall world and such pop-culture icons as Yoko Ono. Their first release, a self-titled cassette, made Canadian music history as the first independent recording to sell more than 100,000 copies. Then, in July, 1990, the group released *Goodbye to the Music*. The two went on to write folk songs about their shopping mall world and such pop-culture icons as Yoko Ono. Their first release, a self-titled cassette, made Canadian music history as the first independent recording to sell more than 100,000 copies. Then, in July, 1990, the group released *Goodbye to the Music*. The two went on to write folk songs about their shopping mall world and such pop-culture icons as Yoko Ono. Their first release, a self-titled cassette, made Canadian music history as the first independent recording to sell more than 100,000 copies. Then, in July, 1990, the group released *Goodbye to the Music*.

With success has come a sense of loss. Some fans even showed up at the video warehouse to ask for autographs—or, crying, they took a *Goodbye to the Music* CD booklet to a funeral. "It's a pain to have that recognition in Canada," says Page. "But people are always asking me, 'Are you a millionaire yet?' And I have to say, 'I may be a pop star, but I'm a Canadian pop star.'" As for why the group has yet to crack the U.S. market, band members cite a variety of reasons: "In Canada," says Stewart, "you can travel and play and people hear about you. In the States, it doesn't happen." Adds Robertson: "It's just too huge."

The work, as *Lady* Robert's the band's last Aug. 24, the band appears on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, the Ladies are armed with new resolve. But, despite that, and that, they seem to have retained the playfulness that was the hallmark of *Goodbye to the Music*, says Page, lending back to the video set. "That's where we have the most fun," they, glancing at a wacko-looking Robertson, he adds, "We're always sad that the day we stop making each other laugh is the day they stop laughing."

NICHOLAS JENNINGS



Doing it the Canadian way

BY ALLAN FOTHERINGHAM

It is the nature of Canadian sport, Maple Leaf Gardens, where every small boy on a frozen basketball court dreams of playing one day. This is a great occasion. Down in the arena are not simple representatives of a professional hockey team. The athletes are representatives of all Canada, our kids carrying the Maple Leaf in the world basketball championships.

And at the arenas, official hockey is booming out of three-by-five-inch paper Canadian flags—the ones handed to school kids when the Queen leads at the airport television feeder. It is a global attempt to reject national patriotism. Because patriotism is the disease. The Game Society has thousands of excited fans bearing huge blue-and-white flags.

These are the fans of Greece. Canadians all, dedicated to the bewitched teams with their passionate fervor. On the floor, the wider organized Canadian players wonder if anyone cares. This is the Canadian way.

There are 22,000 Greeks living in Toronto. Every one of them suddenly becomes a basketball fan. They shout down on the floor. The Canadians are called down on the floor. The media see a sea of blue and white. Only the warden note that blue and white are the famous colors of the Maple Leafs. This is the unfortunate Canadian way.

Incidentally, on the scoreboard up towards the rafters where Foster Hewitt used to sit, Greece is listed as the "home" team. Consider Canada's holy grail of hockey—is labeled "visitors." Only in Canada.

From the rafters hang the Stanley Cup pennants—1922—42—47—48—49—all the way to 1997. Hanger are the (blue and white) owners of Ace Bailey, whose career was killed by an Eddie Shore blackdick. Bill Bartha, who was killed in a plane crash. Sid Apple, who won the pole vault in the British Empire Games and became first captain and then an Ontario Conservative cabinet minister, and Tedder Kennedy. And the paucity Canadians on the stands are crowded out by the Greeks. At halftime, a crowd dressed in all



black garb costume comes on the floor and bounces around doing crazy things that causes think gerillas do. It is assumed the Angles team, when they played Canada, thought this very funny.

Greece, however, starts from the National Basketball Association, drives dollars in Christmas time, hangers hidden somewhere in Toronto who drove out the Canadians. The Canadian coach's complaint that for two nights in a row his team was booed by Canadians. It's the Canadian way.

The surprise of the European track season this summer has been Canadian sprinter Donovan Bailey, who has posted the fastest time this year of any Canadian 100-m runner. But he was not chosen for the Canadian entry in the 100 m at the Commonwealth Games that open in Victoria this week because he missed the trials with the flu. In 1982, one John Turner was holder of the

Canadian record for the 100-yard dash. But as a Rhodes Scholar, he was at Oxford and offensively decried that unless he attended the Canadian trials he could not make the Olympic team. Banned by a railroad mother, he did not leave the money to fly to Canada and back, and therefore never made the Olympic Games. It's the Canadian way.

For Canada, our national airline, here a chap from Georgia to run it. *The Globe and Mail*, "Canada's national newspaper," here as its new publisher an American who proudly confesses he knows little about the country. The May, which is against free trade with the United States, here an American firm to do its commercials. It's the Canadian way.

The Canadian Football League here as its basic marketing pay from a team lead out of the stadium is to add to Canada's league teams from Las Vegas, Sacramento, St. Louis and Baltimore. It then awards the 1997 Grey Cup to Baltimore (which will not be played out a house for its team), so even that undoubtedly will draw a lot of fans from Regina and Winnipeg, when the Baltimore meet the Saskatchewan in Canada's fall classic and a map dominated by an Ozarkian herd will sit in some truly case is a season in Baltimore. It's the Canadian way.

This is the same issue that has an official name for the Canadian players who play on each team. They are known as "non-imports." Only in Canada would Canadians become non-imports.

This is the country that has in its official book of state a foreign woman who lives in another country across a large ocean and visits every year at three for ceremonial purposes, mainly for the excitement of elderly wives who get to marry before her. It's the only time they get to marry in their lives. It's the Canadian way.

This is the country where Morley's July 1 gold bond that a vast majority of Quebecers thought Canada was the best country in the world in which to live—a far higher percentage than British Columbians gave. And the same voters seem poised to put into power a party whose main goal is to take Quebec out of Canada. It's the Canadian way.

A United Nations survey suggests Canada is the best place to live in the world, as obvious fact to anyone who has ever travelled abroad extensively or been as a New York City subway car war midnight on a 15th day night.

And this is the country that is consistently mismanaging, while the PM says nothing. It's the Canadian way.

There is no law that says you

can't make love at 4 in the afternoon on a Tuesday

shall not study a sunset or train butterflies must pay tax on itemized moments of pleasure

may not have extra naprooms with your steak can't disembark in Tortoise and stay there

must pack worry along with your luggage can't learn about life from a turtle

must contribute to the GNP every single salutory day of your life

absolutely must not your chronological age not your shoelace shall maintain strict composure of emotion

can't make love again at 5 in the afternoon on the Tuesday we spoke of earlier

because the laws of the land do not apply

the laws are different out here



It's

different

out

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